

# The Inside Running

Forrest Gump compared life to a box of chocolates – you never know what you are going to get.

When our goal is to leave no man behind, we need to focus on salvation of our relatives, friends and community. Then we also need to encourage each other in the faith as we journey through life.

The longer you live, the more you see lives damaged by broken relationships, poor health and financial problems. Just as some married couples decide they no longer want to live with each other, we see some Christian friends decide that they no longer want to relate closely to Jesus.

Men's Small Groups are a tremendous opportunity for friendships and encouragement. The regular meeting together focuses the men on how each is doing. If the level of trust and transparency is sufficient, then men really can help each other stay on track. Helping each other to run and finish the race well could be one of the most significant things we do.

It really is about leaving no man behind.

Blessings



John Subritzky

# Leave No Man Behind

June 2013

### **Bridge Builders**

by Stephen Miller

I believe God has called us to be bridge builders in our communities and He has given us the right material for the job ahead.

One Sunday last year I asked one of our leaders to come to church dressed as a homeless guy and sit down the back. He looked quite the part with a fake beard, farm boots, inside out jeans and an old walking stick. Most people gave him a wide berth as they entered the auditorium. Even his wife didn't recognise him as she walked past him.

I began my message on how God has called us to build bridges with the people in our community and then about half way through my message the 'homeless guy' stood up and yelled, "What about me? Is there any room for a guy like me in your church?" He went on to say, "Most of you didn't even say hello to me when I walked in." As you would expect, most people went into shock at that moment. A few glared at him as if to say sit down and shut up. One guy yelled out, "Yeah, there is a place for you here, mate". I invited the homeless guy up and after a short interview he took the disguise off, and people realised it was their friend they had been glaring at. Silence filled the church. Many told me

> later they hadn't realised till that moment the depth of

prejudice they carried in their own hearts.

Is it possible we have allowed fear, prejudice and pride to fill our lives and prevent us from reaching out to our neighbours and communities? What thoughts go through your mind when you see someone who looks different to you? Maybe we have allowed our hearts to be filled with horror stories from the media rather than faith stories from the Bible. God has called us as men to be bridge builders.

I live in Auckland, NZ where we recently had a couple of bridge upgrades. The Mangere Bridge upgrade was completed in 2010 at a cost of \$180 million. The Newmarket Viaduct was upgraded for around \$215 million. I've noticed a few things about bridges:

- 1. They are costly to build
- 2. The construction phase is greatly inconvenient
- 3. It takes more than one person to build a good bridge
- 4. There are tremendous benefits to those on either side
- 5. They provide a flow of life where there once was none

As in the natural, so in the spiritual. I believe God wants us to be bridge builders. Here are two thoughts that greatly encourage me as I seek to build bridges.

## TRANSFORMING MEN

#### God has given us authority to build bridges

PK Promise 7 says "A Promise Keeper is committed to influencing his world, being obedient to the Great Commandment (Mark 12:30-31) and the Great Commission (Matt 28:19-20)."

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations..." Matt 28:18-19

Do you grasp what Jesus is saying here? He has all authority and He is commissioning us to go in that same authority and build bridges, make disciples, teach, baptise and invade the darkness around us with the Kingdom of Heaven.

The command is not for us to hold the fort. It is not for us to play it safe and stay at home. The command from our leader is to GO! Go where? Into all the nations. Into every ethnic group. If you live in my neighbourhood you don't have to travel far to find another ethnic group. Living next door to me are European, Indian, Maori and Samoan families. I have four nations living next door.

Yes – some of us will be called to get on a plane, but all of us need to lose our prejudices and know we have the authority to go as ambassadors of heaven and build a bridge. Start with a hello, a smile, a wave and let the bridge building begin. The Holy Spirit will lead you from there because He is right into bridge building.

#### God has given us power to build bridges

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Acts 1:8

Jesus spoke these words. You will receive power to be my witnesses. Witnesses that build bridges between cultural and social boundaries. From Jerusalem to the ends of the earth you will be busy connecting people with heaven.

Fear and prejudice have been around for a long time but God has not given us a spirit of fear but of love, power and right thinking.

Jesus won the authority for us on the cross and the Holy Spirit came to empower us to be bridge builders.

#### Go – you have the power

Go - you have the authority

Go – build some bridges!

## What's on the DVD

FEATURED SPEAKER: David

Dishroon - Leave No Man Behind David really wraps up the *Leave No Man Behind* Event with this stirring message. Doing the work that Jesus has given us is deeply fulfilling. 28 min

**PANEL: Reaching Others** The experienced panellists Gary Colville, Jim Hurn, Grant Richards, Steve Sonderman and

Paul Subritzky discuss their experiences of reaching men for Christ. <sup>21 min</sup>

**BONUS FEATURES:** My Story: Seth Fawcet How God fulfilled Seth's dream to preach. 10 min

- PK Music: I Am Free 3 min
- Winning at Work: Tom O'Neil Career. A clear message from achievement expert Tom O'Neil to help you be more effective at work. 9 min
- The Call 2013 Event Promo 2 min 40
- Tama Tane Malosi Samoan Men's Event Promo
- How to Access Extra Resources 4 min 30

**HUMOUR CLIPS:** Cinema surprise; Mental health hotline; Pepsi – Italian-style; Best of Fails 4 min

**BETTER WORK STORIES:** Shark whisperer - Have you ever wondered what it would be like to have a shark in the palm of your hand? This clip will show you! 3 min 20

**DVD ROM** Access these using Windows Explorer (PC) or Command F (Mac)

**ARTICLES:** Including Derek Prince – Standing in the Gap; Francis Frangipane – Goliath Had a Brother; Pat Morley – How to Parent Adult Children; Gary Smalley – Making Touch Meaningful; Kevin Forlong – Prisoners of Hope; Ian Buckley – Developing Your Creativity, Releasing Your Regrets; Nikki Bray – Dangers of Comparison

**RESOURCES:** Including Bill Subritzky's booklet – Ministering Healing & Deliverance; Weekly Studies for Men's Groups; *Break Free* 2012 Testimonies WLG; *The Call* 2013 Event Brochure; Study Questions - David Dishroon; Bible Reading Plans

MP3s: Including Derek Prince – Father God; Steve Sonderman

– Influencing the World 48 min; PKUSA Classic: John Maxwell

– Equipping to Serve 44 min; **PKNZ Classics:** Graeme Lauridsen – Tomorrow's Man, God's Man 39 min; Col Stringer – Passengers 38 min



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Next Issue: SPIRITUAL WARFARE

Men's Events 2013 - book now! 0800 PROMISE (77 66 47)

Christchurch 23-24 August Wellington 13-14 September Auckland 4-5 October





This Promise Keepers Men's Event in the Samoan language has been designed to inspire Samoan men to live as mighty men of valour – "Tama Tane Malosi". *More info and video: www.promisekeepers.org.nz*