



Holding Out for a Hero--Craig Groeschel

We love to root for the underdog. We love to see good triumph over evil and courage defeat cowardice. We love to see righteousness prevail and unrighteousness punished. And we love a hero who refuses to give up the fight no matter how impossible the odds.

Right now we're starving for heroes. We're no longer surprised when men we once admired and respected – elected officials, superstar athletes, gifted pastors – tumble in a sex scandal, an embezzlement scheme, or a domestic abuse arrest.

We've almost become jaded, half-expecting our leaders and favorite celebrities to be hiding something. Most are, right?

We hope they'll make sacrifices, take risks, and make hard decisions to do the right thing, but we aren't surprised when they don't. We lack real heroes, and Hollywood fills the void with a glut of superheroes – Iron Man and Batman and Thor and Spider-Man and Avengers and X-Men – dazzling us with their powers in 3D and on Blu-ray. But we still long for someone to show us what an authentic flesh-and-blood hero looks like.

Where have all the good men gone?

I read a book recently that suggests that our culture has tried to turn the good men into women – nicer,

softer, kinder, more compassionate, and fashion savvy. Forgive me for stating the obvious, but men are not women. (For the record, women don't make good men either.) After all, God created us differently.

So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. – Genesis 1:27

Both men and women reflect the image of God, but in distinct ways.

I'm convinced that one of the most profound ways has to do with how we use our manhood. God created men to have the heart of a warrior, placing a desire within us to stand up and fight for what's pure, for what's true. A man has a warrior's heart.

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A Little Humor

How do we know that a lot of people in the Bible used fertilizer?

View the answer at the following link:
<http://www.woodburnmc.org/ministries/mens>

Proverbs 27:17

JUST AS IRON SHARPENS IRON, SO ONE MAN SHARPENS ANOTHER.

Meet our Men's Ministry Leader, Chad Stuckey

Tell us a little bit about your family.

Well, I've been happily married to my lovely (and excessively patient) wife Betsy for 25 years in June! I have three sons: Wil is a sophomore studying Industrial Design at Purdue; Jack is finishing his junior year at Woodlan; and Ed is heading into his freshman year at Woodlan....I also have a ferocious cat named Biscuit.

What do you do for a living?

I own and manage a branding firm called BIG. We build and manage brands for local companies like Aunt Millie's Bakery and national organizations like The Navigators in Colorado Springs. I love thinking of creative ideas for businesses. Every day is an adventure (and I can eat donuts and wear jeans!).

What hobbies or other activities do you enjoy?

I enjoy western movies and target shooting at the range. I would have been a cowboy, but I'm allergic to horses. It's kind of hard to be a rough and tumble cowboy with a name like "Sneezy."

How long have you been attending WMC?

I've been attending WMC over 25 years. I started attending shortly after dating Betsy. In fact, we got married in the old sanctuary; it's kind of funny to think of being married in a coffee bar.

Are you a member of a WMC small group and/or any other ministries?

I'm not currently in a small group but have had an accountability partner for over 15 years. Gary Hahn has been a great friend and encourager over the years. We meet every two weeks, sharing prayer concerns and spurring each other on to be better dads, husbands, leaders and Christ-followers. As I work with the men's ministry, one of my biggest missions is to help guys connect with small groups or with accountability partners.

What is your favorite Bible verse and why?

Psalm 78:72—"And David shepherded them with integrity of heart; with skillful hands he led them."

This is my life verse. It reminds me to be a shepherd or leader in my family, at church and at work. It reminds me to do so with integrity.



What has God been telling you lately?

I think God is telling me it's not all about me. I can be so selfish. I can forget that I am here because God chose me. I am *His* workmanship and my sole purpose is to worship and honor Him. Every day I need to listen for the Lord's leading--to be humble and work hard to be self-aware. Thank God for grace, because I am not often successful at remembering those things.

Is there anything you would like to share with the men of WMC?

I want to tell the guys at WMC to buckle up because we are working on some exciting things in the men's ministry. Todd Miller and I know that a healthy church is a result of men being connected and engaged in ministry. So our mission is to refine the activities already in place and get guys plugged in. We don't want more activities—we want meaningful ones.

We have three goals with men's ministry:

1. To help guys disciple other guys—connect
2. To help guys have opportunity for service—serve
3. To help guys take next steps spiritually—grow

We're looking forward to seeing where God leads us!

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Prayer Corner

Pray that our men would pursue opportunities to connect and grow spiritually with other guys as part of a new small group.

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You have a warrior's heart. You itch for a fight. That's God's design, not ours. That doesn't mean that men should be aggressive, alpha-bully punks. (Nor does it mean that women can't fight for what's right as well.) It simply means that within every man, God has planted a divine desire to fight for righteousness.

Think about it this way. There are two kinds of movies: chick flicks and, well, everything else. Do chick flicks inspire men? Do they make them want to be stronger, braver, better men? Remember that Cary Grant movie, *An Affair to Remember*? Remember when Deborah Kerr's character says, "If you can paint, I can walk – anything can happen, right?" Have you ever known a guy to watch that movie? If you're a guy, you don't even know what I'm talking about, do you?

What about in *Pride and Prejudice* when Keira Knightley's character says to her new husband, "You may only call me 'Mrs. Darcy' when you are completely and perfectly and incandescently happy." And he responds with, "Then how are you this evening... Mrs. Darcy?" and kisses her on the forehead. And then, "Mrs. Darcy," as he kisses her on the cheek. And then, "Mrs. Darcy," as he kisses her on the nose. Again, if you're a guy, you have no idea what I'm talking about, right? Or if you do know, you're trying hard to forget.

What about *Braveheart*? Mel Gibson, blue-faced, says:

"Fight, and you may die. Run, and you'll live. At least a while. And dying in your beds, many years from now, would you be willing to trade all the days, from this day to that, for one chance – just one chance – to come back here and tell our enemies that they may take our lives [raising his sword over his head], but they'll never take our freedom?!"

Remember *Gladiator*? Russell Crowe, in his cool Roman general uniform, spurs his horse forward through the forest, calling, "Brothers, what we do in life echoes in eternity!"

For men, there's a part of us that thinks, I wish I could have been there. I would have fought. You don't have to hide it from me. A part of me thinks that too. You know why? Because that's how we're wired. Men are supposed to respond that way. A man with nothing to fight for quickly becomes a frustrated man, often without a clue as to why.

Fighting for what's right stirs something inside a man. It makes him want to be not just a man but the man. The best man he can be. A man knows deep inside himself what God wants him to be: a hero with a warrior's heart.

**The best preparation
for tomorrow is doing
your best today.**

--H. Jackson Brown

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COMING EVENTS

APRIL


Wednesday	April 18	Men's Leadership Meeting (6:30 pm)	Chad Stuckey/Todd Miller
Saturday	April 21	Men's Breakfast & Skeet Shoot (9:00 am)	Chris Omo/David Maus

May

Wednesday	May 9	Men's Leadership Meeting (6:30 pm)	Chad Stuckey/Todd Miller
Saturday	May 19	Men's Breakfast (7:00 am)	Chris Omo
Saturday	May 19	Spring Cleanup (8:00 am)	Ed Claymiller

JUNE

Wednesday	June 13	Men's Leadership Meeting (6:30 pm)	Chad Stuckey/Todd Miller
Saturday	June 16	Men's Breakfast (7:00 am)	Chris Omo
Saturday	June 16	Oil Change Saturday (8:30 am)	Matt Johnson
Saturday	June 23	Reds/Cubs game (Cincinnati, OH)	David Maus

Men's Small Groups	Men's Basketball
 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ GET ANCHORED IN YOUR FAITH ◆ BUILD NEW FRIENDSHIPS ◆ LEARN HOW TO STUDY GOD'S WORD ◆ DISCOVER GOD'S GAME PLAN FOR YOU!! 	<p>Tuesdays 7:30 pm</p> <p>Thursdays 7:30 pm</p> <p>Saturdays 8:30 am</p> <p>Location: Activity Center</p>

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