## **EMAW Testimonials**

Collection for Inspiration

Andy Menichino - Grand Rapid, MI



## "I feel God's love through this study"

My wife and I found Ada Bible Church as a recommendation from a friend. We enjoyed the experience of the church and decided to settle in and make this church our home. Given my background, habits, lack of moral center and deficient relationship with God, I sought a bible Study group as a means to right myself with God to change my life for the better. The men's ministry Pastor Doug Redford told me about a Bible study group and explained where and when to show up. It took me 3 weeks to make it but I finally did, and in two years I've only missed a handful of meetings due to work travel.

Not knowing what I was walking into, the EMAW study has been a rewarding experience. Even though I had a previously strengthened relationship with God, I had fallen away. Book #1 enlightened and solidified my relationship with our Lord including a stronger sense of my purpose with Him and for Him. It truly set the stage for some hard but meaningful work that followed in Book #2. As I had a very rocky and undesirable upbringing and had undergone extensive therapy in past years, this content brought me to realize that for me to change the course of my life I have to be willing to forgive as Christ has forgiven me; and to understand that God has a set of instructions for living out the major roles I play as a man (husband, parent, leader/career, etc.) and if followed change for the better can take place. In following the study, I have become aware of God's instructions, all supported through scripture, combined with the right amount of encouragement to be a follower; I'm allowing the knowledge contained in the study to increase my faith and straighten my walk.

The memory verses support the content providing me with top-of-mind reminders that God is with me wherever I am and in whatever situation I find myself. This "on-demand" awareness is uplifting and helps me out of situations I might have otherwise fall victim. Growth is possible when we consistently consider Him!

During book #2, I felt God's love deep within my spirit and know in my heart God IS with me and it is His doing that brought me to this study; in equal relevance, my presence in this weekly study is more than a thing to do and more than a place to be.

I have been approached to be on the leadership team for our local area and have accepted because I feel God's love through this study and want to continue helping men find God in the way I have found Him: *right where I am - for who I am, as His treasured son*.