

EMAW Testimonials

Collection for Inspiration

Ross Maguire – Grand Rapids, MI



I needed to be challenged to grow and assisted in my desire to be the man God designed me to be!

I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to share my testimony with you as it relates to my participation in the EMAW program. It is my humble privilege and honor to share with you the transforming power God has demonstrated in my life through participation in this intensive and highly rewarding men's discipleship program. Currently, my wife Christina and I have a blended family of 7 children, 4 boys and 3 girls ages ranging 6-13. We are newly married (1.5 years) and are now growing together through a challenging time of building up a wonderful new life that is firmly rooted in Christ.

As a young man, I accepted Christ as my personal savior at the age of 13. However, because of sin and disobedience, I never started a life of faithful walking with God like I should have until a little over two years ago, at age 43. Growing up in Detroit, I came from a very rough background that contained a great deal of childhood dysfunction, abuse and divorced parents; a result of a father who abandoned us. As an adult I had a 13 year military career, a successful professional life in health care, a graduate degree and a secure job with the federal government. However, even after this level of personal achievement I still did not have true personal peace or happiness. This period of my adult life was marked by not walking with the Lord and not listening to the call of the Holy Spirit. Throughout those disobedient years I was not practicing my faith, not praying or even attending church. I was married with three children but was living completely "in the world." Our life did not honor God and was basically a life of selfish secular humanistic pursuits. Careers, sports and hobbies all took precedence over faith.

In 2009, after 10 years of marriage, my ex-spouse announced that she had become an atheist after years of closet Catholicism. My then weak faith was initially willing to accept the news to preserve the marriage for the sake of our kids. However, being unequally yoked with an atheist spouse slowly drove a wedge between us and eroded cohesion in raising the children or even respecting each other because of such drastically differing views and the marriage ended in divorce after three years of conflict. After seeing my secular humanistic marriage crumble and end in divorce in 2012, I began to feel the Lord speaking to my heart through the Holy Spirit. I then

found myself entering my forties with a need for a new commitment to Jesus Christ.

Presently, I am newly remarried, a father or step father to seven children and God has given me a strong desire to follow him and live my life for furthering his kingdom. My wife and I now belong to an absolutely terrific church but I needed a men's ministry that would challenge my spiritual growth and assist me in learning how to become a disciple of Jesus Christ. To become someone who has a reason for the hope of their salvation and who can articulate those reasons in order to share the gospel of Christ. I needed what many of you need now and that is a strong plan and direction in the form of Godly mentorship to help do the job I knew, in my heart, I was responsible to do for my wife and kids. The first thing I needed was a renewed foundation and the EMAW program was/is everything I needed to continue the rebuilding of my relationship with God. While at the same time I am learning discipleship skills that have taught me how to be a man of God.

Since day one of EMAW I have been learning the skills to be the spiritual leader of my household. I have been learning how to love my wife and children in a biblically guided fashion by showing my obedience to God's word. EMAW has helped me find the real-life answers from God's word to life's hardest questions. These answers come from sound doctrine on everything from personal finances to raising teenagers in a Christian home! My wife and I have seen these quiet times, prayer time and scripture memorization regiments, learned through EMAW program, pay huge dividends in our spiritual growth! EMAW can assist you in learning how to have the relationships you should have with your Savior, your spouse, your kids and all the other crucial relationships in your life that are so impactful to the world we live and more importantly in Gods kingdom.

EMAW continues to instruct me on how to study The Word, commit it to memory and, most importantly, to apply it to my life. I gratefully and humbly praise God for bringing this EMAW program into my life because of the renewed opportunities it has given me to be a follower of Jesus that needs not to be ashamed and to be a man who can run the race with endurance and can look forward to the prize of finishing well. So, I want to encourage any of you men who may be considering EMAW, but are baulking at the extra investment of time, to take the personal challenge to join EMAW. It has been the absolute best catalyst to my personal growth and development over this last year. I certainly do Praise God for this opportunity and I challenge any and all men to accept the blessings that await you, and the ones you love, by being involved in this men's ministry as it has absolutely transformed my walk with Christ and consequently my entire life and the course of my families future. It's hard work, but it's the kind of hard work that builds something that lasts. God bless you men. I encourage you to take this opportunity to become warriors and true Men of the Word!