EMAW Testimonials Collection for Inspiration

Bernie Ritchie – Grand Rapids, MI



"You seem to have this peace about you!"

When my friend Russ called me to tell me about this group he was asked to put together to do this study called Every Man A Warrior, *I immediately went online to check it out. When I saw that the* study focused on walking with God, marriage and raising children, money, sex, work, hard times and making your life count, I thought to myself, I've struggled in every one of those areas at some time in my life and some of them are hitting me pretty hard right now. So I told him to count me in.

The study was amazing and I could see changes in myself and my wife could see those changes too, but I didn't realize that others around me could see the difference this study was making in my life.

Then one evening by friend and business partner called me with a question I didn't quite understand at first, he simply asked, "what is up with you?" I had to ask him what he meant and he stated, "I know that you have a lot of things going on in your life with your kids and everything but you seem to have this peace about you that I haven't seen in the 25 years I've known you...so, what's up with you?"

I explained to him that I was doing this study that was impacting the way I connect with God and in turn with myself. I told him, if he was interested, I would meet him for coffee the next day and tell him more about Every Man A Warrior and we did. At the end of coffee and breakfast he stated, "I really need that in my life, how do I get in?" I told him that I would be starting my own group in the spring and he was more than welcome to join me then. He responded with, "dude - I need peace in my life and I need it NOW!" So that day we ordered him a set of books and for the next 30+ weeks we met every week to do the study one on one, the impact was amazing.

I am currently doing the study for the fourth time and I am still getting so much out of it. I have seen this study change lives, repair relationships and save marriages.

My wife is currently battling cancer and if it wasn't for the way this study helped me to solidify and deepen my relationship with God through daily quiet times and meditating on His word, I'm not sure where I would be at today; but, I am pretty sure that I would not be the man that she needs me to be right now. Praise God that Lonnie was obedient and gave us *Every Man A Warrior*!