

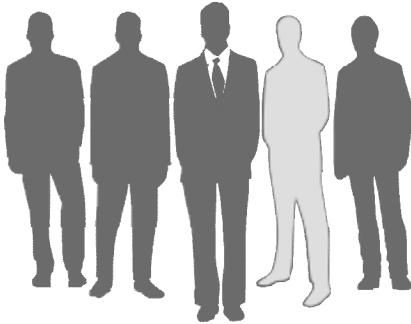


# Newsletter

Volume 35 #12

June 17, 2013

## MOST MEN ...



"Most men will proclaim each his own loyalty" (Proverbs 20:6a). The word translated "loyalty" is from the Hebrew word that means goodness, kindness and devotion. Most men generally think they are pretty good and don't mind telling others how good they truly are. They proclaim it! Even though this thought recorded by Solomon was written thousands of years ago, things really haven't changed much; men are inclined to pride. Fathers, sons, granddads; we are all often full of ourselves. Both ancient and the modern men are pompous and very few are pious. The rest of Proverbs 20:6 asks a serious and sobering question, "But who can find a trustworthy man?"

Most men are flamboyant and faulty but how many are faithful? A few are noted and well known in the Scriptures. In Genesis 18:19 God observes that He knew Abraham and that he would command his children and household workers to "keep the way of the Lord, by doing righteousness and justice ...." Unlike most men, Abraham was faithful. When Potiphar's wife flirted and threw herself at Joseph he refused her advances and responded by saying, "How then could I do this great evil and sin against God?" (Genesis 39:9). Faithfulness characterized Joseph. And then there is Joshua, who said, "choose for yourselves today whom you will serve ... but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24:15). Joshua was definitely faithful. Others like Moses and David or Daniel might also make our list of famously faithful men and they deserve our recognition.

But even though we can think of a few more famous faithful men, most are not well known. In fact, who has ever heard of the biblical character named Hananiah? Yes, he is a real character and yes he is obscure, for you see faithfulness is not normally noteworthy. But consider Nehemiah 7:2 where we read of Hananiah who "was a faithful man and feared God more than many." Nehemiah determined that a man like that should be the mayor of Jerusalem and therefore put him in charge.

Most of us will never be famous but we can be faithful. With Father's Day just past, I hope each of us dads might renew our commitments to being mighty men of faith who fear God more than most.

Looking Up!  
Pastor Chuck Circle