

Project Title: Wild at Heart Boot Camp

Background:

Written on every man's heart is a yearning for adventure, battle, and a beauty. A man needs a deeper understanding of why these longings govern him—and why God made him just like that. And he needs a deeper understanding of why women long to be fought for, to be swept up into adventure, and to be the beauty.

What if? What if those deep desires in our hearts are telling us the truth, revealing to us the lives we were meant to live? God gave us eyes so that we might see; he gave us ears that we might hear; he gave us wills that we might choose; and he gave us hearts that we might live. The way we handle the heart is everything. A man must know he is powerful; he must know he has what it takes.

The story of Wild at Heart Boot Camp is one of men encountering God and experiencing healing, breakthrough, freedom, and strength restored. It is not a retreat about the “seven things a man ought to do to be a nicer guy.” It is a four-day quest into the recovery of a man's masculine soul, the release of a man's heart—his passions and his true nature—all given him by God. For if a man is going to know who he truly is as a man, if he is going to find a life worth living, love a woman deeply, and not pass on his confusion to his children, he simply must get his heart back.

This is based on the work of John Eldredge and his team, who, for a decade, have led more than 20,000 men through Wild at Heart Boot Camps, all around the globe, against a backdrop of beauty and adventure.

Wild at Heart BASIC is conducted through video session led by a facilitator wherein interested men experience the transformational Wild at Heart message.

Content:

BASIC SESSIONS

Here's an overview of the sessions:

Session One – *The Heart of a Man*

Session Two – *Epic: The Larger Story*

Session Three – *The Poser*

Session Four – *Healing the Wound*

Session Five – *The New Name*

Session Six – *A Battle to Fight – Spiritual Warfare*

Session Seven – *An Adventure to Live*

Session Eight – *Rescuing the Beauty*

Session Nine – *A Conversation with the Wild at Heart Team*

Session Ten – *Son ship: Receiving God as Father*

Session Eleven – *Where We Go From Here*

Session One- The Heart of Man – looks at what God had in mind at the time of Creation: how men are designed to carry His image and likeness in the masculine soul and how women also carry it in the feminine soul in an entirely different way. This illustrates what makes men ‘come alive’. A mixture of movie clips, testimonies from Men and scripture readings support this. It also reveals what went wrong with God’s design – how we ‘lost heart’. An image which contrasts authentic Christian masculinity to “churchianity” is also provided.

Session Two – Epic: The Larger Story - It focuses on the Epic Story of the Holy Trinity and the crucial importance of the Father: Son relationship. Then the

story unfolds: the creation of angels, the rebellion of satan, the entrance of evil, and the fall of man. Again drawing on stories that men love from films, the discussion turns to our very own story and then gives a briefing or situational awareness of the world we have been born into. In a world at war, we have an enemy and we need to take that seriously.

Session Three – The Poser – In this session the veil is lifted up on how men handle their fallen nature; as Adam hid from God and behind a fig leaf, man tends to not live by his design but out of his brokenness. Illustrations given, focus on the caricature or stereotypes of the hard driving man in control image, fuelled by fear or a heart deadened by resignation. The time God unmasks us and we recognise our inclinations, is the beginning of an authentic manhood. Examples from the Jerry McGuire movie where he was transformed: “I lost the ability to BS” and “I became my father’s son again.”

Session Four – Healing the Wound –. This session takes us deeper into the question of masculine validation – the reason we do whatever we do or don’t do, and how this relates to our father’s power to bless or curse us. Much of what is observed in a man’s outward persona is shaped by past events, messages received and agreements made in the past, and the wounds we take along the way, particularly from our fathers. We bring these to Our heavenly Father in prayer to seek His healing.

Session Five – The New Name – As we move forward in the process of recovering our hearts, this session reminds us that God had something in mind when he made us, uniquely and individually, as He said, “when I formed you in the womb , I knew you.” Using scripture, movies and testimonies, we move from our false and wounded nature on to a deeper level and ask God what is our true self, how He sees us, our true identity in Him, as sons.

Session Six – A Battle to Fight – Spiritual Warfare – Whilst the final blow against evil has been struck through the Cross and Resurrection; we still live in a world at war, we still have an enemy who ‘prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour’. We are commanded to resist him. The

session reveals the wiles of the enemy, his accusations and attempts to lure us into agreements with him, in order to give him strongholds in our lives. Then it shows how we can break and release ourselves from them. It also depicts how we also hear the voice of the Lord ... 'My sheep listen to my voice' and how we could overcome the evil one and live in freedom.

Session Seven – An Adventure to Live- 'When a man is who he is meant to be, everyday is an adventure'. In this session through examples and testimonies, we hear about 3 types of adventure, Casual, Crucial and Epic. The components of Desire, Risk and Motive are considered within the context of where God fits in. They can all become part of His invitation for us to walk with him.

Session Eight – Rescuing the Beauty- 'Beauty is mysterious and terrible, God and the devil fight there and the battlefield is the heart of Man' - this session looks at how we often take our need for love and validation to the wrong place. In Genesis, after Eve had fallen, Adam chose Eve over God, (for a brief moment he had not) and ever since, man has been willing to sell his soul for beauty; as we see in fornication, adultery, pornography, etc. A deep time of prayer for healing, restoration and consecration forms part of this session, as we seek from God renewed hearts and freedom.

Session Nine – A Conversation with the Wild at Heart Team – a time of casual conversation with the team as they talk about marriage, family, and what brings joy to life. Other topics include how to hear the voice of God. It gives 'training' to hear the voice of God. It shows the playfulness of God as you get to know Him. It advises forming a band of brothers, like-hearted kings, friends you can rely on.

Session Ten – Sonship: Receiving God as Father – 'Since we are sons of God, we must become sons of God.' Here we get to the heart of the message- the restoration of the father: son relationship with our heavenly Father. It discusses a true picture of our good Father and how to walk in union with Him. Through film and testimonies we see how our Father comes for us and brings us what we need in the moment.

Session Eleven – Where We Go From Here – how to continue this new life with God and the hope of restoration. The end of this boot camp is really the beginning of the trail head that leads further on into God and the kingdom which is being established in us.

Mechanics:

All the sessions are by video; somebody serves as host and facilitator. The host/facilitator watches each session along with the other men. He will not add to or take away from the content / schedule.

A detailed schedule through each day of this four-day expedition of the masculine heart is provided as follows:

First Day: One Video

Second Day: Four Videos

Third Day: Four Videos

Fourth Day: Two Videos

Men need to fully unplug. Provide an emergency contact number (that goes to you) and tell your participants to make one last call or e-mail to give that number to those who may need it. Then have them turn off all devices. The outside world will try to distract people. This will be one of the best decisions you make.

Built into the BASIC schedule are “covenants of silence” so the men have dedicated time to hear from God, journal, and go deeper into the issues raised in the sessions. These times of silence are the center piece of BASIC, and you will need to help preserve and protect them.

Venue: - preferably a rural setting