

During this series we will be providing two sets of questions. The first set is for "general use" and the second set is specifically for women.

Grow a Pair... of what?

Weekend Discussion Ouestions September 11-12, 2010

Community:

- 1. What were your initial thoughts about the series title when you first heard it?
- 2. Are there any particular characteristics that you find admirable in others? What are they?
- 3. What do you remember the most about your father from childhood?

Core:

- 1. Do you think the definition of manhood has changed over the last few generations?
- 2. Do you think most peoples' perception of Jesus could be described as "manly"? Why?
- 3. Do you agree with Jim that the unspoken message in most churches today is that men must surrender their manhood, spine and personality to be a follower of Jesus?
- 4. In what ways do men use church and the Bible as ways to bully and intimidate others?
- 5. How would you describe the kind of man that God desires a woman to seek?
- 6. Why do you think some women settle for men who don't fill that Godly role?
- 7. What are some of today's cultural misconceptions about men and women?
- 8. What first comes to mind when you think of Joseph from the Old Testament?
- 9. Read Genesis 50:20. Do you really believe God can accomplish good things from bad circumstances? If so, where have you witnessed this, and how did it occur?
- 10. If you can, give some character traits of Joseph, Samson, Boaz, David and Job.
- 11. Read Galatians 5:6 and 5:12. Are you offended by Paul's language in these verses?
- 12. Why do you think Paul chose to use such coarse language and descriptions?
- 13. Have you had "agitators" in your life? What did they tell you to do or not do?
- 14. Read I Samuel 16:7. What do you think God looks for in women and men? And what do you think most men look for in a woman...and vice versa?
- 15. What did you think of Jim's dad's story about his abusive father? Did it remind you of a story of your own or someone else who is still plagued and defined by their past?

Challenge:

- 1. Meditate on Genesis 50:20 and try to see where God may have used your struggles and mistakes from the past to accomplish good.
- 2. Take an honest, personal inventory and determine the character traits you think God can use for His purposes...and the traits you think God wants you to change.

Grow a Pair... of what?

Weekend Discussion Questions for Women September 11-12, 2010

Community:

- 1. Can you remember a specific situation where you heard someone use the term "grow a pair?"
- 2. When you first realized the title of the new series was "Grow a Pair," what did you think Jim was going to talk about?

Core:

- 1. How has the idea of men and women being the same affected the way we women view ourselves? How has it affected the way men view women? How has it affected relationships?
- 2. Do you believe men today in this culture are different than God intended them to be? If so, how has that made women different than what God intended?
- 3. What are some of the standards used to assess women today?
- 4. In Genesis 50:20, Joseph reflects on the terrible things done to him in his life and how God has used those things. Do you have a story in your life where God took tragedy and pain and was able to use it for good?
- 5. What might it mean if you used the phrase "grow a pair" in talking to some of your female friends?
- 6. Do women have more of a tendency than men to create an attitude of victimization for themselves? How can a relationship with God change that?
- 7. Read Galatians 5:6. What's the meaning in this verse for women? How would you translate it to speak specifically to women?
- 8. Are there specific stories you heard from women growing up that helped you form an understanding of how to "be" a woman? Are there stories that skewed your understanding of how to "be" a woman?
- 9. If you could give one piece of advice to a young woman in your life (daughter, niece, granddaughter, friend) about what it means to be a woman, what would you tell her?

Challenge:

- 1. Make a date to sit down and talk with a woman you value. Share your stories of events in your life that made you who you are.
- 2. Take some time to write down some areas where the way you see yourself may not match the way God sees you. Ask God to allow you to see his vision of you.