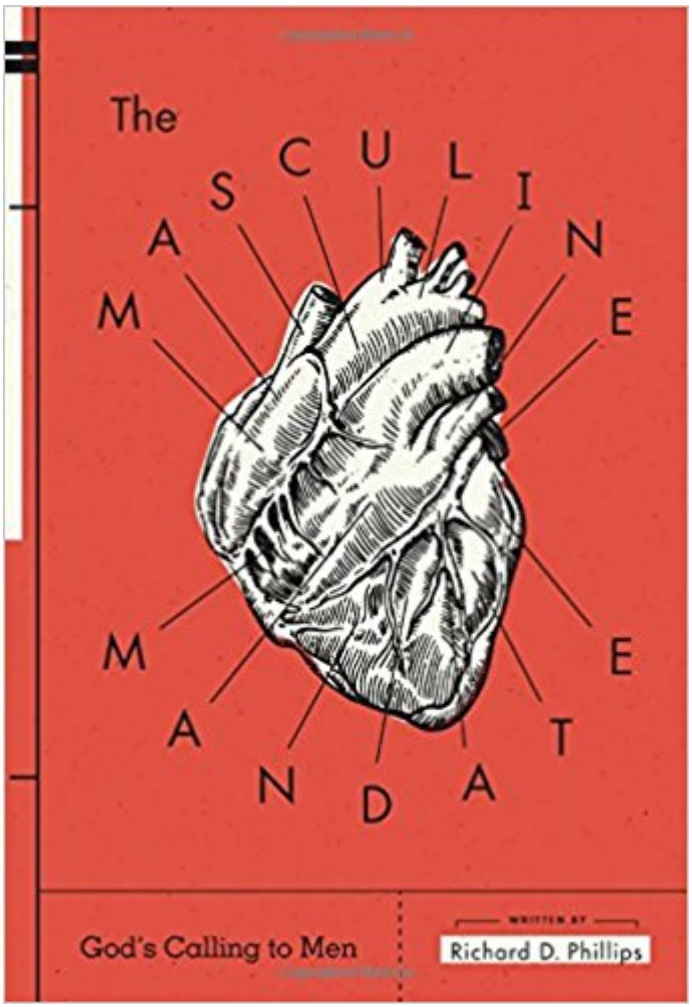
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The Masculine Mandate



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Synopsis

SummaryIn this book, Richard D. Phillips cuts through the cultural confusion, highlights God's mandate for men, and encourages readers to join him on a journey of repentance and renewal. Phillips begins in the Garden of Eden, drawing foundational teaching for men from the earliest chapters of God's Word. This is teaching that reaches into all of life. Christian men today need to examine their hearts and embrace their GodÃ¢â ¬â •given mandate. Only then will they be able to recognize their high calling, and by God's grace, serve faithfully in whatever context God has placed them.ChaptersMan in the GardenThe Masculine MandateMan's Sacred Calling to WorkMan as the Image of GodMan as Shepherd-LordGod's Astonishing Design for MarriageMarriage Cursed and RedeemedMarriage and the Masculine MandateTo Work: The Discipling of ChildrenTo Keep: The Discipling of ChildrenMen in FriendshipThe Masculine Mandate in the ChurchServants of the LordResources and ToolsNotesIndex of ScriptureIndex of Subjects and Names

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Customer Reviews

Egalitarian and chauvinistic thinking have corrupted our ideas about godly manhood. With boldness of heart and pastoral wisdom, Rick Phillips leads us back toward biblical manhood- masculinity grounded in the cultural mandate, the cross, an the ordinary means of grace. May men of the church answer the call of this mandate to stand up and be counted, and to live out their faith courageously as workers, protectors, nurturers, and leaders for Christ. --Eric C. Redmond: Senior Pastor, Reformation Alive Baptist Church, Temple Hills, Md. Author, Where Are All the Brothers?

Straight Answers to Men’s Questions about the ChurchIn the face of the widespread confusion in our culture, Rick Phillips lays out the biblical mandate for men to work and keep the world around us. This book carefully avoids stereotypes and legalistic rules, while unfolding with clarity and practical simplicity the biblical vision of men as individuals and in relationships to other men, to our wives and children, and to the church of Jesus Christ. I learned much from this book and look forward to sharing it with my sons. --Iain M. Duguid: Professor of religion Grove City College, Grove City, PA.

Richard D. Phillips (M.Div., Westminster Theological Seminary) is the senior minister of Second Presbyterian Church of Greenville, South Carolina. He is a council member of the Alliance of Confessing Evangelicals, chairman of the Philadelphia Conference on Reformed Theology, and coeditor of the REC series.

I highly recommend The Masculine Mandate if you are looking for a book to read on biblical manhood and what a godly husband and father should be.This book does not promote the idea that men are wild at heart and need to to to the wilderness to find ourselves, in fact, the author actually addresses this misconception in the beginning of the book. "If God intended men to be wild at heart, how strange that he placed man in the garden, where his life would be shaped not by self-centered identity quests but by conventional bonds and blessings."I rarely agree with everything said in any one book, however, there was very little in this book that I disagreed with! It is a great read!

This is a must read for Men in our modern culture. With so many things fighting for our hearts and minds, we need books like this to give us the proper focus, encouragement, and suggested ways to get there.We studied this book in our men’s group and found it to be extremely good. We spent several weeks on more than one chapter, due to the depth of the points made in the chapters. This is a book for Men... but honestly, even Women can benefit.

When was the last time you saw a sign that said "Men Needed?" Probably never but we certainly should. In his new book "The Masculine Mandate: God’s Calling to Men", Richard Phillips says this is exactly what we need - Men. Phillips contends that we don’t merely need the kind of men that like to hike, camp or hunt but the kind of men that God has called men to be - godly, manly men. Phillips believes that both the secular and Christian cultures have watered down and miss-communicated God’s idea of a man. Through both exegesis and application Phillips explains both the Masculine

Mandate and how it applies to the life of a man.In the first section Phillips starts in Genesis 2 and identifies four essential aspects of a man. First, who man is - he is created by God from the dust of the ground and in His image. Second, where man is - God placed man in the garden. Third, what man is - as mandated by God, man is a lord over creation and God's servant. Fourth, how man obeys God - man obeys God by working and keeping the garden. It is the fourth aspect of man, obedience through work, which Phillips concentrates on during the first section of the book. With Genesis 2:15 as the foundation Phillips says, "We are to devote ourselves to working/building and keeping/protecting everything placed into our charge (pg., 12)." The two concepts of working and keeping are the basis around which God gives man his calling and purpose. Similarly foundational to these concepts is the fact that man was created in the image of God (Gen. 1:26-17). From this Phillips states the purpose of man,"Revealing the glory of God to a sin-darkened world so that He will be praised and that lost sinners will be saved by coming to know the Lord. The great purpose of our lives is to reveal the glory and grace of God both by what we do and who we are (pg., 34)."In the second part Phillips explores how the Masculine Mandate is applied to a man's life. First, there is his marriage as an institution created by God. While discussing the purpose for God's creation of and Eve for Adam, Phillips rightly points out that God did not create her as a "companion" or "mate" but rather a "helper":"God said Adam needed a "helper" because it places the primary emphasis on the shared mandate to work and keep God's creation under the man's leadership (pg., 58)."As a helper women are equal as persons and yet God created them with complimentary differences to help in the fulfillment of God's mandate. Phillips emphasizes that men need to pursue women and not just a career. Second, there is his marriage as cured by sin. Phillips aptly notes that when Eve presented the fruit to Adam to eat "he thought he must choose between the woman and God, between the gift (the woman) and the Giver (pg., 68)." The curse has put a strain on marriage but has not diminished its inherent created goodness. Phillips explains that the curse has affected the marriage relationship by God drawing the man "unwholesomely away from the woman, even as God's curse on the woman draws her unwholesomely toward the man (pg., 73)." Third, there is his ministry in his marriage. Drawn from Ephesians 5:26, Phillips challenges men to have a "nurturing ministry of love toward his wife (pg., 83)."Moving from a man's marriage to his children, Phillips applies the Masculine Mandate to men as nurturers of their hearts towards Christ and keepers of their hearts from sin (pg., 94). A father is to both discipline and disciple his children. Phillips expands these two principles and gives many insightful points of application.Phillips moves from the family to a man's friendships. He draws from the Biblical friendship of David and Jonathan from I Samuel. To be a manly friend one must be willing to initiate friendship, ask how he can help the other and seek to

encourage other men in the faith. Not only is a man to be a friend but he is to be a church-men. Once again applying the creational mandate to "work" Phillips contends that men are to be about the work of the ministry of the church (pg., 131). He is to be a proclaimer and protector of the truth.Finally, the Masculine Mandate is summed up in his service to the Lord in all areas of his life. While he may retire from his job, he is never to retire in his service to the Lord (pg., 144). He is to be a disciple and disciple-maker as long as he can until the day he dies. He is to see his calling as a gift from God and is to serve the Lord with joy and humility. A man "works" for the Lord so that he can hear Jesus say to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of your Master (Matt. 25:21)."I strongly recommend this book to all married and to-be married men! It should be read both personally and would give its greatest benefit if it were used as a small group study for men. Read it! Apply it! Share it!

Perfectly timed for FATHER'S DAY as a free download on for KINDLE, this is a book I wish I would have owned, read and acted upon +20 years ago. Scripturally based, and expertly commented upon by the author, this book is powerful and life changing if you'll let it be.The book is written in two general sections: Understanding Our Mandate, and Living Our Mandate; and is described by the vendor as being 191 pages. I have a feeling the actual length is a bit over estimated as I easily read this through in just a couple days.Based on Genesis 2:15, 'The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.' ESV, Mr. Phillips weaves a convincing and convicting argument for solid masculinity: in bachelor, and in marriage; in sonship, fatherhood, husbandry, and beyond.I strongly recommend the purchase, reading, and heartfelt implementation of this book's contents into one's life. Once you're done, pass it along - don't let the secret remain hidden.I rate this book 5 stars out of 5 on the following scale:+ poor read++ so-so read+++ good read++++ excellent read+++++ life changing read

I recommend to anyone who wants to understand the Biblical view of manhood. This book goes to the basics of what it means to be a man as God designed it. The book introduces the idea of manhood, which is essentially the mandate God gave to Adam - to work and to keep what God has given us. Adam was given the Garden of Eden and we have our own Edens, whether it be cultivating our families, our relationships, our careers, etc. Of course, the fall altered many things - but our mandate remains. The ultimate goal, of course, is to glorify God by building up others in Christ. In the end, that is the thesis of the book. Philips goes through the major callings of man - building a career, becoming a husband, and a father. The unifying theme is that men must serve

Christ by serving others in all areas of his life.The book neatly takes the reader through a very organized, progression of logic, but always based on Biblical truth. The heart of the book, appropriately, is the three chapters in the middle on marriage. Phillips successfully utilizes sound Biblical logic to demonstrate what logic cannot entirely capture: the astonishing beauty of God's design for marriage.The reader will also appreciate Phillip's highly accessible, easy-to-read style. I recommend to both men (who hope to grow in obedience to God's plan for men) and women (who hope to find a Godly man as a husband).

Cool cover. The college and career guys are going through this book. They are really enjoying it.

My husband is reading it and really loves it. Definitely a great buy, it was a birthday present!

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