

THE JOURNEY OF A GOOD REAL MAN

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GOOD REAL MEN AND OTHER KHMER MEN

<p>Describe the Issue</p>	<p>What people believe and think to be true greatly affects how they view life, act and behave towards others and explains the difference between BLP and other men.</p>
<p>Define the Problem Create small groups After discussion ask for Group Feedback noting it on flipchart if appropriate</p>	<p>Bad actions are a product of what men believe. This has led to great tragedies in the history of the world (e.g: Hitler, Stalin, Mao, Pol Pot) and in individual lives. We must examine our beliefs so that those which lead to bad actions can be changed</p> <p>Split the participants into small groups (max 4) and ask them to list :</p> <p>a) What are the differences between BLP and other Cambodian men b) Why are there these differences.</p> <p>Feedback – ask for answers and then suggest any important ones they have missed (e.g; a) some are selfish others unselfish, some are gentle and humble others are bullies and proud, b) Many follow traditional religion or have no religion-BLP follow Jesus Christ, Material things - money, houses, cars are most important for some, for others it is immaterial things- loyalty, love , kindness)</p>
<p>Scripture Teaching</p> <p>This is not to be intended to be used as a message to be delivered to the men.</p> <p>It is Bible information to give leaders confidence that they know enough about the subject to lead a discussion on it.</p> <p>This information may give ideas for more than one discussion</p>	<p>WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TEACH ABOUT BEING DIFFERENT FROM OTHERS?</p> <p>1. God originally created mankind to be pure and good so that they could have a friendship with Him. Sadly they disobeyed God and this allowed Satan to plant sin in mankind. This damaged our friendship with God and that is why he seems so far away from us. We are all the same no matter what our race is. Rom 3:23 all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God</p> <p>2. God wanted to restore our friendship with Him so He sent the Lord Jesus to take the punishment our sins deserve. So now if men want friendship with God we must do what He says. What exactly does God want us to do to restore this friendship? Acts 17:30b ..now he commands all people everywhere to repent. He wants us to turn from our sins and receive His Spirit – like a seed that will grow in our heart. It is a new birth, a new start that <u>makes us different</u> from other people. 1John 3:9 No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God’s seed remains in them; they cannot go on sinning, because they have been born of God.</p> <p>4. God’s friends are different because the power of sin in their lives is broken and can no longer separate them from God – nothing can. This gives great peace and joy, which are seen in their actions, words and attitudes. SUGGESTION <u>Tell the story of the conversion of Saul (from Acts 9:1-19) - explain how he was completely changed from being arrogant, angry and murderous to humble, peaceful and loving.</u></p> <p>5. This difference can be compared to 2 trees – taken from Gal 5:19-23 <u>One produces bad fruit;</u> ... sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarrelling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these..... But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. SUGGESTION Ask the men which fruit do they think leads to a better life and why?</p> <p>6. Another difference is that these men do not do good only when others are watching – they do everything as if it was for God and so they always do their best. Col 3:23 says Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people. SUGGESTION Ask “Do you know of bad work causing problems” (e.g; corrupt or</p>

	<p><i>lazy contractors building badly, a child injured because a childminder was careless)</i></p> <p>7. Men who do not believe in God often put themselves first and value possessions, and power more than people. They are more likely to exploit others because they do not believe their actions will be judged by God. If they seem successful they often have very unhappy lives. Rom 3:16-18 Destruction and misery always follow them. They don't know where to find peace. They have no fear of God at all. Some of the worst men in history have been atheists (e.g; Hitler, Stalin, Pol Pot) or worshiped evil gods that encouraged horrible actions.(e.g; Ghengis Khan, Aztecs-human sacrifice)</p> <p>8. Those who have been forgiven for their sins through Jesus Christ are able to forgive others and even show love to their enemies. They do not seek revenge but trust God to care for them. In the story of Saul one of the men he was going to persecute, Ananias, was sent to show God's complete forgiveness. His first words to him were "Brother Saul the Lord Jesus ...has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit."(from Acts 9:17)</p> <p>8. Jesus said in John 14:1-3 Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house (in heaven) has many rooms; I am going there to prepare a place for you?... I will come back and take you to be with me... Those who follow Jesus have the assurance that they will be with God forever. This helps them to be patient and peaceful during the troubles of this life. No-one else has this assurance. No other religion promises this and atheists only expect nothingness which often brings despair as they grow old.</p>
<p>Group Discussion See how this applies to Khmer men-note feedback on flipchart</p>	<p>This teaching is not understood by all Christian Khmer men or by most other men. Split the participants into small groups and ask them:</p> <p>a) if Christian men are not different from other men, how can they be helped? b) how should this teaching be shared with other Khmer men?</p> <p>Feedback – ask for answers and then suggest any important ones they have missed e.g; a) Fully commit to Christ, Seek good Christian fellowship, Ask God to show where they need to change; b), Show that materialism does not satisfy the heart, Give your testimony of how Jesus changed your life, explain where their religion is incorrect</p>
<p>Summarise How Good Real Men deal with this issue and how they can help friends and other Khmer men with this.</p>	<p>Today we learned that men act according to their beliefs, which cause problems such as: *****. The answer for Christian men is *****. Then we can share this truth with others. *(summarise the answers from the discussions)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> # We understand that only Jesus changes lives and makes them new and satisfying # It is good to help each other by listening to and praying for each other. # Also we need to be humble enough to ask for help when we need it. None of us is perfect so Jesus has brought us together as brothers to help each other. # Good friends keep things told privately to themselves. If we need help with such a friend it is good to talk together with someone you trust. # It is good to ask God to give us opportunities to talk with others about this. Some may laugh at us but others will be glad we showed them how to be helped.
<p>Close and agree the next meeting and what you will do</p>	<p>If you pray - include personal commitment to, a) receive the power of the Spirit to please God (but not legalistic striving to be good) b) help each other c) seek opportunities to befriend others and share the truth with them.</p>



Journey of a BLP
Level 1
Module 2