The Bible Speaks To Men

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Preacher: Bill Brock

[0:00] Amen. We will be true to thee, children.

Our fathers take in prisons dark, We're still in heart and conscience free.
How sweet would be their children's day, If they, like them, could die for thee.
In love of our God, we will love our friend and boy, In all our stride.
Let peace be to the land of the town, Like thy holy birth and gracious life, Take on our fathers' holy faith.
[2:10] We will be true, we will be true, We will be true to thee till then.

Amen. It's been put to music, And possibly some of the thoughts from these verses Will be incorporated in the message this morning.
But we would like to challenge not only the fathers here, But the mothers and the sons and daughters of this congregation in particular, To think on these things. Whatsoever things are true, Whatsoever things are true, Whatsoever things are honest, Whatsoever things are just, Whatsoever things are pure, Whatsoever things are lovely,
Whatsoever things are a good report, Whatsoever things are lovely, Whatsoever things are a good report, Whatsoever things are a good report, Think on these things.
If there be any virtue, And if there be any praise, Think on these things, Think on these things, Think on these things, Those things, Which ye have both learned and received, And heard and seen in me too.
[4:48] And the God of peace shall be with you, The God of peace shall be with you.

As we mentioned before the choir sang, This is Father's Day.
Due to the Equal Rights Amendment, You can no longer speak to women, Unless you speak to men.
So seeing on Mother's Day, I spoke to ladies, It necessitates me today speaking to men. Only.
The lesson to men cannot be done in one lesson. The lesson. So, It means that all of you have to swear on your Bible, That you'll come back tonight.
[6:17] Right? I might say to you, That it is very interesting in the world. In fact, It's very interesting as I look over the congregation this morning.

On Mother's Day, This church had the largest attendance in Sunday morning, It's had all year. And that was because there were a lot of mothers, Who came with sons, daughters, and etc.
That's not true this morning. It shows what people think about fathers. I'm always tempted on Mother's Day to sing that song.
If your father wasn't your father, Your mother wouldn't be your mother, So be happy for father on Mother's Day. There is a song by that name.
You don't believe me, do you? It happens to be a song. It happens to have been recorded 25 years ago by Arthur Godfrey. I don't want to speak to fathers today.
[7:24] I want to chat with you men. Men are strange creatures. It takes age to say amen.

And I mean this with all my heart. Men usually, And I think this is a fairly general good statement, Are usually afraid to show how they feel.
Or to admit to any weakness. Men seldom seek help. Did you know that?
It almost has to be a last resort before a man will give in. I think Mr. McAwee will bear me out. When it comes to a counseling problem, And needs as individuals, Or needs as families, Or any need at all.
[8:37] It is usually the lady or the woman who will take the initiative and try. Very seldom do men seek out professional counseling unless they're forced to do it.

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And very often when they do come for counseling, they are not honest. I have sent families to professional people, Made appointments for them, And had the professional person call me back and say, The woman showed up but the man didn't come.
And I think this probably pretty well covers the attitude of men. Probably the attitude of husbands. Maybe the attitude of fathers. Somebody handed me a book this last week on the subject of workaholics.
Large book. Expensive book. Expensive book. I assume they probably handed it to me because they wanted me to see I was one.
[9:57] But having read it, I know I'm not. Professionally. Some interesting things about that thing though, And about that book and its content, Is what I just said to you.

That men who are workaholics, Have problems which they will not face. I'd remind you that no man can change apart from the Lord Jesus Christ.
He can substitute one habit for another habit. He can change some area of his life by disciplining it, But he always replaces that discipline with some other type of discipline in order to accomplish it.
So when you look at men, and when you talk about men, Most men will say, Yes, I'll listen. But. I would like today just to take you through the word of God, And most of this is review.
Some of it is new. On the subject of men. Now the Bible of course always speaks in the masculine gender. When it's speaking of mankind, you are aware of that.
[11:11] It uses the personal pronouns he quite often. It uses the word men or man quite often, When it does not mean man as we look at it. It means mankind.

So that when you go through the word of God, You have to find those passages which differentiate between specifics which speak to men, And those areas which are general that speak of mankind or human beings.
I want to start this morning in 1 Kings chapter 2, where I always start when I speak to men. I might say to you this morning, that over the years you do learn something.
In 1 Kings chapter 2, David is dying. All of you know the paragraph. And as all Old Testament saints, when the father was dying, he always charged his son.
Abraham did this. Isaac did this. Jacob did this. Jacob did this. And so David does it. Now it is interesting that the Bible does single out men.
[12:23] It is interesting that the Bible highlights men. Adam was a man. Moses was a man. Christ was a man.

That upsets ladies sometimes. But the Bible does differentiate between the sexes. And as far as I can see, the Bible differentiates to the place that there are actions and habits and conducts That should be unique to each sex, man and woman.
We begin. Now the days of David drew nigh that he should die. And he charged Solomon his son saying, I go the way of all earth. Now he gives him one thing to begin with. And it's interesting. That throughout the word of God, you will bump into this phrase.
And it's always connected with a man subject. First of all, he says to Solomon, be thou strong. I'm not interested in that phrase this morning. But I would remind you that one of his charges to Solomon was strength.
Now he wasn't talking about physical strength. Physical strength does not necessarily mean the strength that the Bible is analyzing or admitting to. He says to Solomon, in order for you to fulfill the charge that I'm going to give you, and I'll show you this a moment in the New Testament, it's the same thing.
[13:46] You are going to have to have what I am saying to you is identified as strength. Now I'm aware there are give and takes.

I'm aware that there's nothing in the New Testament that says, this is a man's job except a pastor and deacon. This is a woman's job. There is no reason to believe that in a household, some of those things which men can do well, men should do.
But if the lady of the house, without usurping the authority of her Christian husband can do it, there's nothing wrong in doing that. You know, some fellows wouldn't pick up a sock.
That's woman's work. I've never figured this out, to be honest with you. I'm interested in this, from the standpoint that Solomon is charged with what he called strength.
And the word probably has to do with mental strength. It has to do with emotional strength. It has to do with some intellectual strength. It no doubt has to do with some spiritual strength, as you see as

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we walk through the Bible today on these characteristics.
[14:59] He's saying to Solomon, there is going to have to be in you some unique ability to be strong. Now he comes to the phrase I want you to see. Be strong therefore, and show thyself a man.

That's an interesting phrase to me. David designates to Solomon some distinction known in the environment, in the world of what he lives, which he calls manliness.
Now that's unique. One of the first times you find it in the word of God by specifics and not by illustration.
What he designates to Solomon is that in the world in which he lives, there is something that sets him apart if he is a man according to the word manliness.
Let me ask you a question. Is that true today? I'm not talking to non-believers. I'm only talking to Christians this morning. There is something in the word of God that sets a Christian man apart from unbelieving men.
[16:08] In fact, if I wanted to do it fast, I would say to you that God says to believing men, be my man. It has nothing to do with the conduct that the world says is manliness.

It has nothing to do with the behavior that the world says. Men act this way or don't act this way. It has nothing to do with what we have nowadays where men are trying to accept what women do and women are trying to accept what men do.
There is a differentiation in a Christian man. Now, the interesting thing is that in the Roman language, the Latin, the word for man is V-I-I.
From which we get our English word virtue. The Hebrew word has the same tenet in it. And that interests me a great deal.
In other words, in the word of God, manliness is identified with virtue. Whatever is virtuous is manly.
[17:17] And I might say to you that when you go through the word of God, apart from the few introductory phrases which deal with manliness, everything that is attached to a believing man, we in this day attach to women.

For example, the Bible speaks to men with words which we normally associate with women. We call for virtuous women. That's the words that's been used. Now, not so much anymore.
If you read your newspaper, you read letters to the advice people, it's always interesting. I like to read those things. How stupid people can be. How they get paid for that is beyond me.
I'd like to find a job like that. I can give advice as good as they do. But occasionally you get somebody that really thinks and writes a letter.
A number of weeks ago in one of the advice columns, a young man wrote a letter. And against that letter came another letter a couple weeks later from a young lady.
[18:27] Now, it has all to do with morality. And all I'm trying to do is give you an illustration. The young man that wrote the letter was talking about marriage and he used this phrase. When I marry, I want a girl that's pure and virtuous.

Interesting phrase. Which is all good and well and good. We hear this all the time. A few weeks later, the young lady came back and said to the advice column writer.
I read this letter about this young man. But let me say to you, there are some girls that are looking for pure fellas and virtuous fellas. Interesting statement.
Whatever is virtuous, according to the word of God, is manly.
Go for a second. The lady sang it for you. But turn to Philippians 4, where we were a few weeks ago in our Sunday evening lessons. And follow those words which they sang.
[19:34] Let me say to you, that at least as a beginning, here is a description of manliness. Based on David's word to Solomon and the equivalence which we have in the English language, this is what he says.

Finally, brethren, verse 8 of chapter 4 of Philippians. Whatsoever things are true. Now let's stop, fellas. A virtue that God puts throughout his word of God is truth.
In other words, a Christian man should have the virtue of truth. We expect our kids to tell the truth, right?
We punish them if they don't tell the truth, right? Then every believing man should be truthful. That's a virtue that God expects of a man.
That is a condition and a character of manliness. Look at the second one. Whatsoever things are honorable. I'll speak more about that tonight.

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[20:43] To my thinking, the greatest weakness in America today is those things which are not honorable. There are no honorable people left, hardly.

I am sorry to be critical this morning of our president. But if you are aware of the editorial writers that are writing about our president now, they have picked up something that scares me.
And they have picked this up. His born-again language is seeping into his thinking of all things. But let me say to you, they've got the wrong impression.
If our president is born again, he has no discernment according to the Bible, if I'm reading the writers right. For when he got the senators and the representatives together, trying to sell them on salt too with the Russian, on the basis of his born-again experience, he says, you have to trust the Russians.
According to my born-again experience, you don't trust the Russians. Now the writers, the worldly writers have picked that up. His born-again experience is infiltrating to try to persuade us to accept things.
[22:03] Friends, his born-again experience is against the word of God. The very people that have come here for Russia, Vins is one of them. And most of you know Vins was a Baptist preacher who was nine years in a concentration camp in Siberia.

Who has been talked to by one of our mid-missions missionaries and has been the translator for Vins when he has talked to religious people. Vins has told Mr. DeShallando that there is no ability to be born again in Russia except in the underground church.
And Vins has said openly to us that the only people he can identify with in the United States is fundamental separatist Bible-believing people, nobody else.
And he has vowed he'll never walk into a liberal church to speak. That's discernment, friend.
And that's honor. Here is the virtue of what we call honorableness. God expects Christian men to be honorable.
[23:14] And that means if you say something, you do it. And when you say it, you mean it. And of course most of you know this is one of my pet peeves.

And I have tried in my own life when I say to somebody, I'll be there and I'll do it, I'll do it and I'll be there.
If I say to them, I'll write you a letter on Tuesday, I write the letter on Tuesday. Christian men are to be manly. It is a designation which David used to Solomon which set him apart from those things which were not manly.
And whatever is virtuous is manly. Number one, truth. Number two, honorableness. Number three, just that which is right. I hate to tell you, friends, Christian men are always to do that which is right. I don't care if it's against everybody's thinking it has to be right. And God will not honor Christian men until they are virtuous. He goes on to say, he uses women's terms.
[24:23] I don't like when the word of God uses women's terms. Do you? Whatsoever things are pure. Men are to be pure? I thought that was a woman's term.

I would remind you, he said to Timothy, keep thyself pure. Friends, that's hard to find today even in the Christian community.
Look what he says. Whatsoever things are lovely. Isn't that a great phrase? One translation has it. Whatsoever things are pleasing. Do you know any lovely men? Huh? One man comes to my mind. You all know him.
How many of you knew Frank Anthony? One man comes to my mind, you all know him.
How many of you knew Frank Anthony? Bob Anthony's dad, you remember him? Huh? Lovely man. Lovely man.
[25:42] How many lovely men do you know? How many pleasing men do you know? I'd remind you fellas, most men want to be pleased, not pleasing.

Most Christian men want to be waited on, hand and foot. I do not believe that's in the word of God. What else does he say?
Whatsoever things are good report. I like that. Do people speak good of you? You remember what it says in the word of God? That if you live according to the way God wants to, even your enemies have to speak good of you sometimes.
Whatsoever things are a good report. Now he pulls it all up. He says if there be any virtue. You see he's been talking about virtuous things, right? I'll remind you that virtue leads to praise.

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If there be any virtue and there be any praise, think on these things and what you think you do. Oh, David says to Solomon, be strong, Solomon.
[26:50] I hate to tell you something. It takes a strong man to be a Christian. It takes a strong man to be virtuous. If he's going to live according to Paul's little closing paragraph here.

If you're going to be truthful. If you're going to be honest. If you're going to be pure. If you're going to be lovely. If you're going to be pleasing. If you're going to have a good report and good reputation. If there be any virtue.
This. Is a virtuous man. That's what he said to Solomon. Now Solomon didn't live up to it all the time. I'll remind you.
That having great intellect does not make you virtuous. Solomon was the wisest man that ever lived, right? But he did some stupid things. No man can be manly if he's not a Christian.
But just because you accept Christ does not automatically make you manly. Let me ask you, fellas. When's the last time you changed one of your habits as a believer? I do not want to get on the subject of husbands and wives today.
[28:06] I hope I can stay off of that. But it's a great concern of mine. Christian men have picked up the attitude of the world in regards to the family and their position.

That is not in the world. Go back for a second to 1 Kings. I'm sorry to take so long on that. But I have you see that David said to Solomon. That in our kingdom and in our environment.
And in our circumstances of living. There is something that will designate you apart from others if you are a man. I'll just say this for a second because I want to leave it.
Notice something else. If you look at verse 3. I personally believe that verse 3 has to follow verse 2 and not be before verse 2 in 1 Kings 2.
Keep the charge of the Lord thy God. Now someone would say, well if you keep the charge of the Lord your God then you'll be a man. No, no, no. A Christian man has the position to be a man before he even takes the charge of God.
[29:13] Because he's a new man in Christ Jesus. All things pass away and all things become a new. Notice verse 3. Keep the charge of the Lord thy God.

How do you keep the charge, fellas? To walk in his ways. To keep his statutes and his commandments and his judgments and his testimonies.
Most Christian men don't believe the Bible. Kindly notice that prosperity depends on you being a Christian man.
It's not the first time it's in the Bible. Joshua 1, 7, 8 says the same thing. Psalm 1, which we've used is our year verse. Blessed is the man that walketh not and that constantly ungodly understandeth in the way the sinner and her citizen and see the scornful. His delight is in the law of the Lord.
And whatsoever he do shall what, fellas? There's the word. Well, just let me say something to you because I have to leave the paragraph.
[30:14] It is interesting to me that down in verse 7, David says something to Solomon that's very interesting. But show kindness.

Is he saying to Solomon? Let you stand. Not by your brawn. Not by your brute.
Not by your beast. Not by your bear. But by being virtuous. Turn, if you will, to 1 Corinthians chapter 16. I know what you're going to say, Pastor.
You have it out of context. You are aware of the Corinthian church. I might say to you something just to get myself in hot water.
Most men are kids. Most men are children. The greatest powders in the world are men. The greatest people that get hurt in the world are men.
[31:18] The most selfish people in the world are men. Not kids. Not kids. And you are aware that the church at Corinth were a bunch of kids.

They were spiritual babies, right? Always had to have their own way. If you won't follow our leader, we won't follow yours. If you won't do what we say, we're going to take you to court.
If you don't want to come to the Lord's table and revel before you get to the Lord's table and even get drunk, you're not with it. In verse 13, he closes the epistle.
You are aware that many people say these are the basis for Christian warfare. And I would remind you that warfare in the Word of God is always connected with men, not women. Warfare is always connected with men, not women.

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There is a difference between men and women in the Word of God. Verse 13. Watch ye. I'm not sure he's talking to men, but he does say there is something to keep you awake.
[32:30] When I get to this evening, I would remind you that the spiritual tone of every family, every home, every church should be set by the men, not by the women. Amen. The vigilance should be by men, not by women.

Watch ye. Stand fast in the faith. That's interesting. Then he, notice the last phrase so I don't miss it. He says, last phrase is the same as David to Solomon. Be strong. There is always seemingly in the Word of God, strength connected to manliness, not physical strength, but that which is identified as strength, mental, intellectual, emotional, spiritual strength.
Be strong. You know, it takes something to live for the Lord. Fellas, it takes something to say no to your kids once in a while. It takes something in love and purity to say to your family, this is what we're going to do.
Now, notice the middle phrase. Somehow, Paul, into the Corinthians, who act like babies, picks up a phrase which is not identified with mankind or human nature, but with the gender men.
Quit you like men. Could be translated, act like men. Don't act like women and children.
[34:04] Isn't that interesting? To a church, he said, if you want to mature, you're going to have to act like men spiritually.

We don't like to say that, do we? We don't like that at all. We don't appreciate that. What is it to act like a man?
I picked up a little phrase or a little four-line situation. The heading is, what is not manly? In other words, what is childishness?
You won't like it. Number one, to believe without evidence. Did you ever take a kid's nose off this way?
Kid gets all set. He took my nose off. Put it back on. What's the kid doing? He's believing without evidence.
[35:19] Right? It is childishness to believe without evidence. It is not manly to believe without evidence.

Secondly, to neglect known duty is not manliness. That's what he's saying to Solomon.
Be strong. Act like a man. Follow the Lord. Get to know prosperity because of him. Be kind. In other words, don't neglect known duty.
Men, you cannot be virtuous if you do that. But thirdly, you won't like this.
To prefer pleasure to business. It is childish to have to play all the time.
[36:18] Isn't that interesting? It is not manly to always prefer pleasure in place of business.

And I'm going to remind you that in the United States of America, we are pleasure happy. Someone has written that what America needs is a good depression.
But he has also written what America really needs is the great physician. Fourthly, what is childishness or what is not manly is to live only for the passing day.
Wish I could stop. The end of the quote says, Brutes live for the present. Men live for the future. That's what's happened in America in the sex revolution. Everything has to be now.
[37:30] I might not have opportunity tomorrow. I might lose out on some pleasure if I don't do it now. That's the definition of a brute.

It's not the definition of a man. Isn't that interesting? What is not manly? To believe without evidence, to neglect known duty, to prefer pleasure to business, to live only for the passing day.
Now let me say to you, it was written in the 14th century. Notice what he says. Act like a man.
The Corinthian believers had been acting like children. And the only way Paul, by the Holy Spirit, could make him to see something is, act like a man. Turn to 1 Corinthians 14.
Basically, I'm starting on the lesson now. I know what you're going to say to me. Pastor, what are you going to get out of 1 Corinthians 14? Let me show you something.
[38:34] From here on in, all I'm teaching you for the rest of this morning for a few minutes and tonight is, men are to, semicolon or colon, and I'm going to add to that phrase.

Believing men are to act like men. Have you got that down, fellas? And a believing man is a virtuous man based on the etymology of the words in the Old Testament and the New Testament.
Whatever is virtuous is manly. And normally, what the 20th century, at least conservative thinking, designates as virtuous women should be identified to men. Don't act like a kid.

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Act like a man. Now, to that I want to add, believing men are to, colon, then I'm going to add on that from here on in, okay? 1 Corinthians 14.
He's talking about the gift of tongues. I'm not going to talk about that this morning. Verse 20. Brethren, be not children in understanding.
[39:45] Now, you're aware he's always after the Corinthian church for being kids. Howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be what?

Answer me. In understanding be what? I'm going to add to my phrase. Christian men are to understand. Christian men are to be understanding if they're men.
Now, if they're men who act like kids, they won't think straight. In fact, one translation has it. In your mind be full grown. Believing men are to think.
Christian men are to mature intellectually. They are not to be kids. They are not always to be pleasure-seeking. They are not always to believe everything that comes down the pike.
They are not always to live for today. They ought to think once in a while. Now, most of you know my second peck peeve is people who don't think. Notice that again.
[41:02] Men are to understand. Let me stop for a second. Men are to understand their life. Now, that's almost impossible sometimes. Because when you say to her, why did you do that?

And she says, because. I never have figured out what because is. It's a good word. She gets away with it. Most men don't try to understand.
Most Christian fathers don't try to understand. Most husbands don't try to understand. I'd remind you that Peter writes this quite vividly. When he talks about the husband and the wife in chapter 3, he says to the man, giving honor unto the weaker vessel.
Now, ladies don't like that term. Not presently. But it is biblical. Men are to understand that ladies are ladies. As I say quite often, I really don't know why God created them.
I understand biblically why he did. But when I work with them, I don't quite understand it sometimes. And I've worked with women for 30 years. And you just get to the place to think you understand them and they throw you for a loop.
[42:17] They do some other stupid thing. But Peter says, giving honor unto the weaker vessel. We have to understand sometimes.

Women are women. God created them that way. We have to understand them that way. But if you're going to be a Christian man, if you're going to be biblical, you have to have some mature thinking.
You have to understand things. We have to understand our kids. Paul also writes to fathers. Fathers, provoke not your children to wrath. That's interesting. Hard to understand our kids sometimes.
Hard to realize once we were their age. We weren't too smart then either. Let me ask you a question this morning, men.
[43:19] As a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, and let me stop. If you're not a believer in Christ, you might as well throw the lesson out the window because you're not going to agree with it. Are you a virtuous man?

Are you truthful? Are you honorable? Are you pure? Are you pleasing? Are you lovely? Do you have a good reputation?
Let me stop. Do you have a good reputation with your family? Do you have a good reputation with your wife? Don't talk to my wife, pastor.
She won't tell you the same thing I do. Never tell me that because I'll go to her immediately and find out what you're lying to me about. Hey, look.
I realize we could live for self as Christians, but what is it going to get us in eternity? Such a thing in the word of God is acting like a man and possibly, maybe, the majority of our churches fundamental today are so weak and so illogical and so spiritually decreased because we haven't got any Christian men acting like Christian men.
[44:38] Men are to think. Now, that doesn't say ladies aren't to think. But there is a unique ability that when Paul wanted to get to the Corinthian babies who were arguing about spiritual gifts, he said, in understanding, be men.

And they knew what he meant. What kind of understanding do you have this morning, Christian men? What kind of mental thinking do you have?

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I'd remind you that the Holy Spirit is the greatest thinker that was ever given. I wish I could stop here. Remember what he said? The Lord Jesus Christ said, when he, the Spirit of truth, shall come, he shall guide you into, what's the next phrase?
All truth. God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, of love, and of a sound mind. Rational thinking.
How many of you Christian men are listening to the Holy Spirit? If any believer lack wisdom, let him ask of God who giveth to all men liberally and upraitheth and not without doubting.
[45:57] Does he give it? Yes, he does. Men, Christian men, are to think. Christian men are to understand.

They are to endeavor to understand. Well, you will come back tonight, right? I just got started. Believing men are to, number one, be manly, right? Across my mind over the last few weeks as I thought about this lesson came an old song which all of you call heathen is.
Give me some men who are stout-hearted men and I'll soon give you 10,000 more shoulder to shoulder and bolder and bolder.
How do you grow Christian young men? How do you grow young men into faithfulness to the Lord?
[47:08] How do you grow young men to respect ladies and girls? How do you grow young men to tell the truth? How do you grow young men to start thinking and not accept the status quo of the world?

You've got to have an example for them to follow. The secular songwriter said, give me some men who are stout-hearted men and I'll soon give you 10,000 more.
Give me some Christian men who are men and I'll soon give you 10,000 more.
God said, we need men working with boys. We need men working with young people.
We need men serving the Lord. God said, be a man. My man in the image of God.
[48:31] Heavenly Father, we thank you for the word of God. It is very stringent. It has no gray areas. The illustrations are there.

The charge can come from God himself and man can fail. Apart from the Lord Jesus Christ and the indwelling Holy Spirit, men will continue to deteriorate.
We confess we fail. God, give us some biblical Christian men this morning in this church and allow us today to continue the teaching of the word which will show men what God expects them to be and expects them to do.
Oh, we know the world is trying to make everything easy and trying to get us to say, well, relax. You told us to relax in your word, not man's philosophy.
Close our service this morning in the direction of the Holy Spirit for Jesus' sake. Amen. Will you sing with me hymn number 336? 336.
[50:01] As we just close our service this morning and think about the word of God and what it means to us. 336. Please stand as you sing. Thank you.

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