Decision 4:
Make Women and Children Feel Safe, Not Threatened

BIG IDEA

"*Real love means wanting the best for someone.* If you do not desire that for someone, you do not love that someone. It's that simple." (p154)

HUDDLE UP

What kinds of things can a man do to provide safety and security for his family?

How were safety and security modeled for you as you grew up? While no one is perfect, would you say your parents set a healthy or unhealthy example for you?

FROM DECISION 4

"I want to make it obvious to her that of all the possible concerns in her world, she doesn't need to worry about what I'm up to or where I'm going. I'm going nowhere." (p148)

"Most of the time, when we use the word 'love' in our culture, we're talking about our love for ourselves. The other person is a means to an end. *I am a consumer, and if she provides me what I'm looking for, I will continue to consume what she can offer. And if she ceases to provide the good self-feelings, well, I must not love her anymore*. . . . This is the common way women are treated by men as things to be consumed and experienced. . . . This is a betrayal of our God-given role as keeper of the garden. We are doing the work of the enemy. We become destroyers and predators rather than protectors." (p154-55)

"Body, soul, mind—all together now. That's integrity." (p160)

"It's likely that there are people you could talk to right now, if you so desire, and damage permanently. Your power is scary. Be gentle. Don't betray your role." (p163)

"If you're married with kids, now is the time to be home a lot. . . . Now is the time to concentrate on the people around you, the ones depending on you. This is your garden. Keep it. Don't leave it. . . . It's Kids Season. Awesome Truck Season can start later." (p166)

KEY QUESTION

Am I providing security for my wife and kids (if I have them)? Can they count on me to always be there physically, emotionally, and spiritually?

NEXT STEPS

In your area of growth (see "GOOD WORK" section, page 10) what is one thing you can do to make women and children feel safe, not threatened?

"Make it Stick" Tip...
Through the week, reach out to another one of the men in your group to check in with them. Ask them how the pursuit of their mission is going. Ask them how you can help and pray for them. Then, share where you are in your pursuit. Having one another's back will help you stay in the fight.

PRAYERS / NOTES FOR NEXT TIME

What prayers or thoughts do you have in this area of your life?
How can this group help you?