

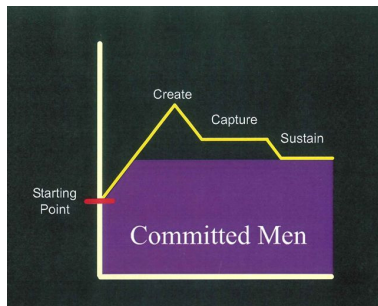


# Following a Promise Keepers Event

## Bringing the Fire Home

**Capture the effort and resources that have been invested into motivating men to get involved in a Promise Keepers Event.**

If the momentum generated is not captured quickly by a suitable follow-up event back at your church, that investment is put at risk, and will probably be lost. Building on the success of the Event is therefore logical and good stewardship. Having well planned, good quality church-based initiatives increases the credibility of your Men's Ministry and participation levels.



The planning and promotion for this needs to start well before the Event.

Here are some **strategic follow-up options** that will enable you to capture the momentum created by the Promise Keepers Event:

### 1. Sunday Service

- **Testimony**

Give your men the opportunity to testify to what God has done in their lives through the Event at your **first service after the Event**, while the experience is still fresh. Remember that once a man has publicly testified to what has happened to him and the decisions he has made, he is

far more likely to follow through on those decisions.

- **Praying for the Pastor**

Your men will have been challenged to get involved in regular pre-service prayer for your pastor and your church. The first Sunday back after the Event will be a great time to kick this off.

- **Real Men Sing Real Loud!**

Invite men to get up and sing some of the songs that were used at the Event (this could be organised beforehand). See the Promise Keepers website for a list of Event songs. The men will appreciate that their Promise Keepers experience has been brought into the church life. Women will also love the opportunity to hear the men sing.

### 2. Men's Small Groups

Men want to grow spiritually and a Men's Small Group is the optimal place for this to occur. A Men's Small Group is a place where men can build real friendships and be honest about the issues they face. Men grow spiritually up to 7 times faster in a Men's Small Group than by just attending church on Sundays.

Harness the energy from the Event to form new groups. Men will also have formed closer friendships at the Event and will have become used to small group discussion and prayer from their Event experience.

A healthy Men's Small Group will involve men sharing God's Word together, praying for one another, caring enough about each other to ask how they are progressing at work etc, and finding how they can serve others as a group.

Remember that a Men's Small Group serves an entirely different function to a mixed home group.

See the Promise Keepers website [www.promisekeepers.org.nz](http://www.promisekeepers.org.nz) for more information, including:

- How to start a Men's Small Group
- How to lead a Men's Small Group
- Men's Small Group Resources

### 3. Existing Mixed Small Groups

Men need space and context to process the next steps God is asking of them. If your church does not have men-only small groups, ensure that the Event experience is being discussed in any existing groups that men belong to in your church.

The limitation of mixed gender groups is that some topics will be inappropriate to share in that setting.

### 4. Follow-up Courses

Courses for men provide an ideal opportunity to build on biblical knowledge and strengthen friendships already started at the Event.

Men are motivated by the Event to take the next step by participating in a follow-up course for a set period of weeks. Consider running a course for men, for example:

- *Promise Keepers Study Guides*
- *Winning at Work & Home* by Robert Lewis
- *Wild at Heart* by John Eldredge
- *Valiant Man* by Dr Allan Meyer

### 5. Men's Breakfast

A men's breakfast following the Promise Keepers Event provides a chance for your men to focus on what happened at the Event. Have a few men testify and talk about the things that God is asking them to do next. Use this opportunity to promote and motivate men to join or start a Men's Small Group and show them how they can get involved in one.

### 6. Men's Camp

Powerful opportunities exist to help men go deeper and gain spiritual growth through camps and retreats. For tips on how to organise a successful men's camp, contact Promise Keepers or check our website.

### 7. Informal Situations

The men should also be encouraged to get together informally to build friendships. They could simply have coffee together or do social or sports activities.

The goal is to create a community that is encouraging and empowers the men to grow spiritually. If you use these examples to build on the momentum from the Promise Keepers Event, you will be providing a strong foundation for Men's Ministry in your church.

***For more information on capturing the momentum of a Promise Keepers Event, contact Promise Keepers or visit our website: [www.promisekeepers.org.nz](http://www.promisekeepers.org.nz)***