



# THE INSIDE RUNNING

What is your name?

*Wild at Heart* by John Eldredge has had a big impact on Christian men, partly because it addresses the "Who am I?" question of identity.

This month we include several powerful resources to help us work through the identity question in a healthy way.

Many men feel unworthy. They feel that they don't or can't reflect God's glory as a son of God. How we see ourselves can determine if we feel happy or hopeless. The enemy is out to steal, kill and destroy. He will often start with our identity as a way to neutralise us. Other people can participate in this destruction by using negative words and name calling. *Dealing with put downs*, an MP3 track by Mike Connell on the DVD ROM, is essential listening to help you break free from this.

So, what is in a name? Names sure seem very important to God. He often changed men's names to align them with their new identity. Have you ever prayerfully sought God on what name He calls you? Many men have benefitted from the revelation of the name that God calls them by. You are a son of the Living God. He knows your name!

*"This is my son, in whom I am well pleased"* also applies to us today.



John Subritzky

## Known by Name

By Ivan Bezzant

**As we face outwards into our world today, we do so knowing that as Promise Keepers – ordinary men called by God to do extraordinary things – our world is impacted when we know who, and whose, we are.**

God calls us to be men who are leaders and who will make a difference in the world but too many men feel broken, lost, alone and unfulfilled. So many men carry pain which leads to outer worlds that reflect their troubled inner lives.

As I speak with men, I get a strong sense that many do not believe they have much to offer. They feel unworthy and unimportant. They don't see what God sees.

The result can be that they will try to hide from who they see themselves to be. Some hide through their work, some go searching for wealth. Some seek pleasure, some hide through alcohol and drug abuse. Sexual perversion or bondage to pornography become the hiding places for some men. For others, it is uncontrolled anger. You will know what it is for you! And all the while, this ordinary man is feeling so far away from doing extraordinary things.



Is there an answer? Yes, and it lies in developing a healthy identity.

For a man to stop hiding and settle the question of who he really is, some key foundational stones must be laid in the belief system of his life:

1. I am a person of value and it does matter that I am alive. God does not create junk. We are all men of value, and it does matter what and who I am today.
2. God knows me. He has a plan for my life. I am here to serve Him.
3. I am placed here at this point in time by God to serve His plan for my generation. There is purpose to my life. There is a reason for my life today.

These foundation stones are God's words of absolute truth for each of us.

But how does a man lay this solid foundation and believe God's truth when he feels so differently about himself? The thing to remember is that 'what we keep before us is what we will become'. I'm a great believer that life follows our expectations of it. I personally suffered from identity issues which created pain in my life and the world in which I lived. To change that, I practised these foundational truths by reciting them, keeping them before me. 'Practise makes permanence', I was told. Practise something often and it will become permanent in your life. Regularly reciting the above truths, and building relationships with other men who reinforced these truths, transformed my inner world and impacted my outer world. We all need to take self-governance seriously. That is, to take hold of yourself by using your will - to surrender your life to Christ, receive the empowerment of

*continued over >*



Continued from page 1

the Holy Spirit and change your inner messages through the above foundational stones. Find support from men who you see living out these truths in their lives and with energy and commitment pursue a different life. Your future is determined by the outworking of these truths.

How about taking the challenge and practising these three foundation stones for a healthy identity? God longs to see you do what He says you can do and be who He says you can be.

*Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; You teach me wisdom in the inmost place. Psalm 51:6*

## What's On the DVD

**Featured Speaker:** Richard Ellena is the tenth Bishop of Nelson. He is a talented musician, a trained teacher and has taught Te Reo Maori. This message draws on his experience to examine identity, how God sees us and how the enemy tries to rob our true identity from us. Richard deals with this topic in a humorous and engaging way. 34 min

**Drama:** Hole in One – The difference one person can make when they listen to God and obey. 4 min

**My Story:** Dino came along to Promise Keepers with his brother. That weekend his life changed and he eventually experienced a massive turnaround in his life! 6 min

**Humour:** Motherland, Chuck Norris blend, Daddy and daughter, Frontier hotel demolition. 4 min

**Music:** "God of Wonders" 4 min

**Men's Ministry Coaching: Strategy for Growth:** Paul Subritzky and Brian France talk about the importance of a good strategy. 6 min

**A Promise Keeper:** Paul Subritzky describes what is at the heart of being a Promise Keeper. 9 min

**Resources:** John Eldredge has been influential in helping men examine their identity and what it means to be a man. Promo for the *Wild at Heart* DVD course. 10 min

**How to Open the DVD ROM:** John Subritzky takes you through the simple steps to access all the extra features and content in the ROM section of the DVD. 4 min

### DVD ROM

- **Study Questions** for Richard Ellena's message. See also **PowerPoint**.
- **Weekly Studies** for Men's Small Groups
- **Bible Reading Plans**
- **Articles:** • Vince D'Acchioli, On Target Ministries - news • Michael Smalley – Why Marriages End in Divorce
- **iPod videos:** Richard Ellena, God of Wonders and Drama

*Listen to these great audios on your computer or MP3 player while you exercise, commute or spend time growing spiritually:*

- **MP3s of the main videos plus:** • **Derek Prince** – Do you realise how valuable you are? • **Mike Connell** – Dealing with put downs
- **PKNZ Classic** – Mike Hawke on marriage, PK Invercargill 2004 • **PKUSA Classic** – John Trent, Boulder, Co. 1993. Family Team Building. The worksheet John Trent refers to is linked from this newsletter archived on our website [www.promisekeepers.org.nz](http://www.promisekeepers.org.nz)

**PROMISE #1**

A Promise Keeper is committed to honouring Jesus Christ through worship, prayer and obedience to God's Word in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**NEXT ISSUE: WORSHIP**



## Promise Keepers Men's Events 2011 - Book Now!

- ◆ Dunedin 29-30 July
- ◆ Christchurch 12-13 August
- ◆ Tauranga 26-27 August
- ◆ Wellington 9-10 September
- ◆ Auckland 7-8 October
- 0800 PROMISE (77 66 47)

ph: 09 627 0101 | fax: 09 627 3526 | PO Box 48123, Blockhouse Bay, Auckland 0644, NZ  
web: [www.promisekeepers.org.nz](http://www.promisekeepers.org.nz) | email: [pk@promisekeepers.org.nz](mailto:pk@promisekeepers.org.nz)



### High achieving sportsmen are opening the Promise Keepers Game On season with rousing Curtain Raiser events!

Promise Keepers is going on the road this autumn, taking an authentic slice of the big Events to towns nationwide.

The same program that is enjoyed each year will be reproduced in an evening, with a two-speaker format. The sportsmen will tell their stories and how their Christian faith is lived out. There will be an opportunity for men to become Christians, so you can invite

men who are open to change in their lives. The second speaker will be from the Promise Keepers team. The whole evening will be the genuine Promise Keepers experience, so it is an easy introduction for your friends.

These local events will be the real deal - full on curtain raisers for the Game On Events later in spring, so the impact will be 100% massive!

Plan now to get to a Game On Curtain Raiser. Who is the Holy Spirit prompting you to invite?

### Game On Curtain Raiser Events – featuring sportsmen and Promise Keepers speakers!

**Napier:** Thursday 31 March with Pierre Spies

**Kaitia:** Friday 8 April with Tim Dow

**Tauranga:** Monday 11 April with Andrew Stroud

**Hamilton:** Tuesday 12 April with Andrew Stroud & Ian Foster

**Dunedin:** Wednesday 4 May with Eroni Clarke

**Invercargill:** Thursday 5 May with Eroni Clarke

**Other centres:** TBC

*Subject to change. Check [www.promisekeepers.org.nz](http://www.promisekeepers.org.nz) for updates.*

