

MAN AS THE BATTLE BUDDY— DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. This chapter focuses on men relating to other men. What is meant by “battle buddy”? Can you remember some biblical support for the concept?
2. Stu Weber advises, “As a Christian man, if there’s a boy in your neighborhood without a father, you have the responsibility to mentor him.” Is there someone in your life you should be mentoring?
3. Men today need a battle buddy with whom they can share their thoughts and who they can trust. What were some famous biblical examples of battle buddies? Are there some guys you would consider battle buddies in your orbit of relationships?
4. Do you have a battle buddy? If not, is there someone in your life who could fill that void? What kind of man would be a good friend to you? Or to whom could you be a good friend? Considering the characteristics of a battle buddy discussed in this chapter, which three do you value most when it comes to male friendship?
5. Thinking of your battle buddy, do you hold each other accountable, or do you look the other way when bad decisions are made? How can you hold each other and even your other friends and family members accountable?

6. In addition to holding each other accountable, we need to be encouragers to our friends. What are some specific ways you can encourage those around you?
7. One of the main ways we can encourage other men is through prayer. When you say you will pray for another man in need, do you do it? Try this: pray with the guy on the spot. It will mean a lot more for him to hear you pray at that moment than it will to hear you promise to pray and walk away.
8. Have you ever doubted or denied the Lord? Be honest; we all have, and that's the point. There are men who go through those same dark valleys who need a battle buddy to come alongside with understanding, encouragement, perspective, and prayer. Do you know a guy who is hurting and needs a battle buddy?
9. Is there a younger man in your orbit of relationships who is asking to be mentored by you? He may not straight out ask, but based on the contact and communication, it is becoming clear. Or is there someone who evidently needs a mentor you might approach for the purpose of suggesting it, and if amenable, getting started?
10. It is important to let those you mentor endure hardship in a controlled fashion, in order to prepare them for what life may throw at them. What are some healthy examples of this concept?