

What an awesome time spent with these guys...learning, praying, worshipping, eating, celebrating, and enjoying so much of what God has given and entrusted to us! The feeling of oneness in the spirit that I felt is hard to put into words...all barriers were lowered and all judgment was set aside. These are men I would go to battle for and I feel they would say the same about me. I look forward to the next time I'm with these men (did somebody say "reunion"?). I will keep them in my prayers and think of them as friends and brothers. I want this for all of the men that I lead! - Brian

When I go to a course or read something, I want instant practical knowledge and skills that I can put to work that day. Whether that is in work or life. Well this weekend surpassed my expectations. It has been less than 24 hours since I returned home from this weekend with the Band of Brothers. In this time I have had meaningful and spiritual discussions with God, each of my 3 sons (age 12, 10, 8) and my wife. I was prepared, confident, and truly believed in what I was saying. There was no doubt or pushback from my family. They could feel in their hearts and minds that I was taking our faith and our family to the next level, on a journey together. One that will certainly bring us closer to each other and to God. I will take this new understanding to other parts of my life, work, friends, neighbors, and colleagues. I have God to help as well as a new group of men that I can call on. On a side note: The weekend was fun, full of sports, shooting, fishing, motorbikes, cold beer, campfires and more. But you will be amazed how much more fun these activities are with God!

Thank you Band of Brothers and Thank You to all the guys there this weekend!
Jay, it took you 3 years of invites before I heard the call. Thank you for not giving up on me! - John

When we learned that Cabin Bluff had been damaged by the hurricane and that we would have to cancel the event I felt like something had been stolen from us. The chance to spread the gospel, help open the men's eyes to the freedom available to them, and the enjoyment of deep masculine fellowship had all been taken away by the consequences of living in a broken, fallen world. But God has a way of redeeming things. That's his specialty! And as the dots began to connect we felt like He was calling us to do it (on ridiculously short notice!) at Allen's farm. It was so powerful. Redemption indeed! We got to experience the Gospel, the freedom, the intimate fellowship in a way we never saw coming. I love the way God does that! - Jay

After the decision was made to postpone Life to the Limit at Cabin Bluff and the proposal was made that we conduct the event at Allen's farm on such short notice, I was quite reluctant. I was worried about the planning on such short notice, the cooking, the sleeping arrangements, etc. After voicing my concerns during a conference call it occurred to me that my reluctance was likely a sign that we did, in fact, need to conduct the retreat at Allen's farm and that I needed to be there (despite Allen's very diplomatic way of giving me - and anyone else - an out). The Lord certainly showed up in a huge way. Not only did he bring a few unanticipated participants, but also great weather, great teaching, and great fellowship. I know that the participants' hearts were stirred deeply. Mine certainly was as new truths were revealed to me that I had not heard in the 6+ times of listening to that same material! What a beautiful and grace filled weekend! - Capers

Wow! This was my fourth experience now with the Band of Brothers and when I think I may have heard and experienced it all before, God humbles me and opens my eyes and ears to more and more of his word through the fellowship of being with other flawed men like myself. I believe it's crucial to have a network of Godly men, so we can be better husbands, fathers, sons, and reflections of Christ's love.

I am already craving more fellowship with my Band of Brothers and my family just smiles now shaking their heads with pleasure of support and happiness for me when I get home from one of these weekends and I talk about my experiences with the Band of Brothers (Kind of like- there he goes again- there is no stopping his enthusiastic chatter)!

My goal is to really do a much better job implementing my enthusiasm I gained from these weekend experiences with my family for God's presence in our lives for a sustained period and not just falling

back into my old routines.

To be able to share this with one of my good friends this time added another dimension to the experience, so I encourage others to do the same. We were like two middle school girls yapping our mouths off about our experience and you would have never realized we just drove 5 hours to get back home. He and I are going to strive to carry this on here in WNC! You may have noticed I referred to this as the Band of Brothers and not just the Charleston Band of Brothers for I believe God is at work here and has great plans for this spreading beyond any borders. Thanks though is not enough to say to the leaders of the Charleston Band of Brothers for all you do. I love all of y'all!

- Gig

I had been hearing about the Charleston Band of Brothers from my friend Gig for the past year! He was extremely encouraged about his weekend spent there last year and continually telling me about it! I had come up with a number of reasons not to come, but I felt like I was being drawn to this event for some reason! I had very low expectations of what I could receive during our retreat, but I was blown away by the men and testimonies that I heard. The sessions hit me right on the money, direct bulls eye hit! So many things I have stored away and put in my tackle box of life! I had lost my way and didn't even know it! I was posing in all aspects or checked out! I can never repay you men for what you have done for me! The encouragement and bonding with other men. I spoke more to God this weekend than I have in years! Thanks for peeling back the layers and allowing me to be the man I was made to be!

Also the farm, food and activities were great. My favorite was target shooting and redneck golf! Thanks again for a great weekend! I more of this in my life! - Justin

After a wonderful weekend the enemy has laid siege on me. I learned that my God is a warrior, who will always be at my side to defend against and attack what the enemy sends me. I did not realize, however, how well the enemy has clouded my perception of who I am. I did not realize that my own rationalization of my situation was seeded & nurtured not only by my mind, but also by the enemy. At the end of the weekend, I was told to expect this. I didn't realize how intense it would be. I am struggling.

I am struggling, however, now with the full knowledge that my God is beside me. And with his help, with him as a warrior beside me, the enemy will be pushed back.

I only need to have FAITH in him and we will carry the day. I ask you to pray for me. That I will SURRENDER myself to God completely. Only in that surrender will there be a great victory against the Devil's plan to destroy me.

Thank you for opening my eyes this weekend. Thank you for letting me see my savior in an entirely different light. Thank you for forcing me to revisit and discover the wounds I have suffered. I cannot express the appreciation I have for this ministry.

May God bless us all! Again I ask for your prayers...Jesus & I have some ass kicking to do! - Eugene

It was an amazing weekend. What Satan meant for evil God meant for good.

Genesis 50:20 English Standard Version (ESV) 20 As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people [a] should be kept alive, as they are today.

Though we did not have the luxuries of Cabin Bluff, the Lord was faithful and mighty and once again surprised us with His faithfulness and truth. The men present were blown away by the truth of the Gospel and the fellowship of the body of Christ. I realized that faithfulness trumps every situation. You would think I'd understand that concept by now.

My hope is that the men who were present would be spurred on to deeper relationship with Jesus and lean not on their own understanding, but rather on the Lord's. That's my hope for myself as well.

Your prayers were heard and answered this weekend and your faithfulness is a testimony to what happens when the saints all join in as one to glorify the Christ!!! Thank you!!!! - Rich

When leading a men's retreat it is easy for me to focus on what needs to get done or what needs to be said, but this trip I was able to listen to what the Lord was saying to me!

What made this possible? A super competent team that has a high level of trust and the prayer coverage took away all the voices that cause me to worry and overwork! Thanks you to those who held us in prayer. We saw the Lord do amazing things over the weekend and I know that we all leave changed men with a better perspective on the real challenges of this world.

I was encouraged, challenged, healed, and I laughed a lot! - Allen