

## Lads for Christ Setting the Tone at Lads

We are members of a generation that has become awfully uncomfortable with seriousness. Many people find themselves very uncomfortable in prolonged silence. Our culture has told us to hold our thoughts, feelings, and struggles inside of us. The Biblical picture of community is foreign to many of us. Part of our mission at Lads is to challenge everything stated above. We want to bring change to culture and restore the beautiful picture of authentic, Christ-centered community. The first step in creating such an environment is to establish what is and is not okay at Lads. In other words, "set the tone." For example, make it clear that judgment, gossip, discrimination, dirty jokes, objectifying women, or anything else that is not beneficial for building up the community of believers (Ephesians 4:29) will not be tolerated at Lads. Our goal at Lads is to build each other up and also to set an example of how God's people ought to live (Colossians 3:12). Additionally, make it clear that Lads is a place to be completely honest about both your struggles and your triumphs (James 5:16, Romans 12:15). Push people to get out of their comfort zone and share openly. Growth can only occur when we step out of our comfort zone. Finally, please know that if you take Lads seriously, others will too. This is not to say that there is no room for fun at Lads. In fact, Lads should be a time to bond with one another and build lasting friendships. However, make it clear that there is a time for seriousness and a time for fun. Our hope is that Lads will be both an enjoyable time as well as a time to be challenged and grow in your faith.