

# THE MENACE, MYTH & MAYHEM — OF — AUTONOMY

## THE MENACE, MYTH, AND MAYHEM OF AUTONOMY

Doing what you want to do when you want to do it and having the money to pay for it sounds like a dream. The problem is, it may also be what ruins you—*your career, your reputation, or your family.*

Autonomy is dangerous because it's an appetite you can't fully or finally satisfy. It's a thirst that can't be quenched. And when you feed an appetite, what happens? It doesn't shrink. It grows.

### CONNECT

How do you define success? Is autonomy a part of your definition?

### LEARN

You will watch a shortened version of a message to set up your group discussion. Encourage your group members to watch the full message sometime this week to remind them what you talked about.

### APPLY

After giving your group members an opportunity to share what stood out from the video, discuss the following questions as a group:

1. What stands out to you from the story of David? What could he have done to set himself up to make better decisions?
2. David permanently undermined his credibility and legacy as a king, but he also permanently undermined his moral authority with his children. Why is it sometimes so easy for us to forget that our actions affect the people around us?
3. Andy said, "David got in trouble when he isolated himself from the community of men to whom he was most accessible." What makes isolation so dangerous? Have you ever experienced this?
4. How many people know you completely? How difficult is it to let people know the real you?
5. What can we do as a group to create an authentic community of men?



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## WRAP UP

David's story serves as a reminder that things planned in secret rarely remain a secret. As a group, commit to being open with one another as you create a safe and authentic group.

## PRAY

Starting with one of the leaders, take time to share how the men in their group can pray for *him* this week. Then, pray for God's help to keep you connected to him and one another as you strive to avoid autonomy.

