

**From:** Michael Scott Brown <[bmike@bgsu.edu](mailto:bmike@bgsu.edu)>  
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**The Brown Family Ministry Happenings: Edition #191**

Sunday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Hello Friends, Family, and Ministry Partners:

It was thirteen years ago when I was invited to join the **Lambda Chi Fraternity** as an *Honorary Initiate*. It was during the 2004-2005 school year when I began speaking at fraternities all across campus at Bowling Green State University in an effort to connect with more college men who would most likely never attend a *campus ministry* meeting. Those presentations and mentoring opportunities prompted the idea to create a campus-wide mentoring group for college men... a huge initiative that is now known as the Vanguard Men's Community!

Well tonight at 7:00pm, I have been invited to return to the place where it all began... to speak to the 52 undergraduate members of this fraternity at their chapter meeting. The topic is **R.E.A.L. Manhood** (see attached handout). Just last month, five of these fraternity brothers from Lambda Chi Alpha made their way to the Vanguard Gathering, and since then, these five college men have been strategizing as to how to get all of their members to visit Vanguard so that I can begin to provide mentoring opportunities for the entire organization. So their idea is to have me spend 30 minutes with these college men just two days before the next Vanguard event (which is this Tuesday, October 30<sup>th</sup>).

The more I spend time with young men here and across the nation, the more I am saddened by how **MESSY** (confused, wounded, passive, and lonely) are their lives. Not just spiritually, but across all twelve dimensions (personally, emotionally, physically, sexually, relationally, intellectually, culturally, recreationally, financially, vocationally, and morally). We all need God's grace, and I am honored to have the privilege to intersect with these men's journeys at this pivotal point of their lives with timeless wisdom and unconditional love. I would invite you to pray for this and the many other opportunities of this nature in the next few weeks.

Thank you for your partnership in this ministry,

**Michael**

*Michael Brown, Ph.D.  
Campus Minister and Conference Speaker with [Cru]  
Creator and Director of the SEARCH Residential Community  
Creator and Advisor of the Vanguard Men's Community  
Campus Consultant, Life Coach and Mentor  
Bowling Green State University*