



# Men's Rites of Passage

2020

*No sign will be given except the sign of Jonah.*

Luke 11:29

## What is the *Men's Rites of Passage*?

The *Men's Rites of Passage (MROP)* program is a four-night/five-day deeply prayerful and soulful experience that builds on the classic patterns of male initiation through moving rituals and teachings. Each day includes group prayer, major teachings on central themes in masculine spirituality, quiet time for reflection, and sharing in the context of a small group.

### The MROP is...

- A personal discovery about masculine spirituality and "the Holy Mystery."
- A time to savor the healing and awesome power of nature.
- A process to address issues of loss, grief, and relationships with your father and other male authority figures.
- An opportunity to examine life's priorities and ask courageous questions about your "next step."
- An invitation to listen to the "quiet voice of God."
- A chance to return to life with a renewed commitment to sharing your gifts.

### The MROP isn't...

- A traditional, lecture-based retreat.
- An informational workshop about men's spirituality.
- A sensitivity-training or deprivation experience.
- A threatening process that requires participants to engage in anything strange or unsafe.
- A test of physical stamina.

# MROP Next Steps

## STEP ONE

Pray and Prepare

The MROP is not just another event to attend, nor is it something to “fix” some condition in your life. It is a decision that should come out of prayer; you should know in your “gut” that God is inviting you into it. You might also talk to others who have gone through the MROP.

## STEP TWO

Visit Host Chapter Website

When you're ready, visit the website for the host chapter where you would like to participate in an MROP. Please take your time as you read and review the application and consider all the questions.

## STEP THREE

Submit Application and Deposit

Submit your completed application, along with a \$50 deposit, to the host chapter. If you are accepted, the deposit becomes non-refundable and is applicable to the final payment. Once received, the host chapter will contact you regarding the status of your application. If accepted, a full confirmation package will be sent to you with further instructions.

## STEP FOUR

Wait and Pray

The MROP is a life-changing opportunity. Spend the time before an MROP being present to additional inspiration and insight. Be aware of where your life's journey is calling your attention. (See suggested readings in the lower right section of this page.)

## 2020 MEN'S RITES OF PASSAGE

United States

### Arizona

April 22 - 26, 2020

[azmalespirituality.org](http://azmalespirituality.org)

• • •

### New Mexico / Colorado

June 10 - 14, 2020

[illumana-nm.org](http://illumana-nm.org)  
[illumancolorado.org](http://illumancolorado.org)

• • •

### Illinois

August 12 - 16, 2020

[illmidwestmalespirituality.org](http://illmidwestmalespirituality.org)

• • •

### Northern California

November 4 - 8, 2020

[norcalmales.org](http://norcalmales.org)

*“The young man who cannot cry is a savage, the old man who cannot laugh is a fool.”*

International (cont'd)

### United Kingdom

July 22 - 26, 2020

[malejourney.org.uk](http://malejourney.org.uk)

• • •

### Australia

August 11 - 15, 2020

[centreformenaustralia.org.au](http://centreformenaustralia.org.au)

• • •

### Czech Republic

September 9 - 13, 2020

[chlapi.online](http://chlapi.online)

## NOT SURE IF YOU ARE READY?

Here are some ways to help you know.

1. Speak to someone who has made the MROP. If you don't know anyone, email [info@illumana.org](mailto:info@illumana.org) and we can connect you with a man in your area.
2. These books we have found to be supportive for the male spiritual journey.

**Bill Plotkin**

*Soulcraft*

**Richard Rohr**

*From Wild Man to Wise Man: Reflections on Male Spirituality*

**Henri Nouwen**

*The Return of the Prodigal Son*

**James Finley**

*Merton's Palace of Nowhere*

International

### Austria

June 10 - 14, 2020

[mannsein.at](http://mannsein.at)

*The MROP is a program developed by Fr. Richard Rohr. Illumana has been entrusted with maintaining the integrity and expansion of this work.*

**Illumana.org**

[facebook.com/malespirituality](https://www.facebook.com/malespirituality)

500 Westover Dr. #12690  
Sanford, NC 27330  
[info@illumana.org](mailto:info@illumana.org)

