



Men's Bible Study – “The Creative Minority”
Mark Batterson – Gradually Then Suddenly (Chapter 7)
Monday, April 13, 2026

Theme: You don't need the majority when you are aligned with God.

Opening Hook

Most men think change happens when everybody gets on board.

But real change has never started with the majority—it starts with a committed minority.

Question: What happens when a few men decide to fully follow God?

Chapter Summary

In Chapter 7, Batterson introduces the idea of the “creative minority”—a small group of people whose conviction, consistency, and courage shift culture and spark transformation.

They don't wait on permission. They don't follow trends. They don't need applause.

They are anchored in purpose and activated by obedience.

Anchor Scripture – Matthew 5:13-14 (NLT)

“You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world...”

Salt doesn't need to be the majority to change the flavor.

Light doesn't need to be the majority to overcome darkness.

Teaching Movement #1: God Has Always Worked Through a Minority

Examples:

- Noah – One man stood while the world fell
- Gideon – 300 defeated thousands
- David – One shepherd vs. a giant
- Jesus – Changed the world with 12

Key Line: God doesn't need a crowd—He needs commitment.

Teaching Movement #2: The Power Is Not in Numbers—It's in Alignment

Romans 12:2 (NLT): “Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world...”

A creative minority thinks differently, lives differently, and responds differently.
They are not conformed—they are transformed.

SEE REVERSE SIDE

Illustration: Movements like the Montgomery Bus Boycott and the Civil Rights Movement began with a disciplined minority.

Teaching Movement #3: Consistency Creates Influence

1 Corinthians 15:58 (NLT): “Always work enthusiastically for the Lord...”

Creative minorities show up when others fall off, stay faithful when others get tired, and keep building when others quit.

Consistency is what turns a minority into a movement.

Teaching Movement #4: Courage Is the Mark of the Minority

Joshua 24:15 (NLT): “As for me and my family, we will serve the Lord.”

Even if nobody else does it. Even if it's unpopular. Even if it costs you something.

Real men of God don't follow culture—they set it.

Discussion Questions

1. Where do you feel pressure to follow the majority instead of God?
2. What does it look like for you to be salt and light in your environment?
3. Have you ever seen a small group make a big impact?
4. What area is God calling you to stand even if you stand alone?

Application

This Week's Challenge:

- Stand for God in one uncomfortable situation
- Be consistent in one area you've been slipping
- Influence one person intentionally

Don't try to reach everybody—reach somebody.

Prayer Focus

Lord, help me stand even when I stand alone.

Give me courage to live differently.

Make me part of the minority that brings change.

Strengthen my consistency and conviction.

Closing Charge

Stop waiting on everybody else to get right. God is not looking for a crowd—He's looking for a core.

What started small will grow strong. What started quiet will get loud. What started with a few will reach many.

God specializes in using the minority to make a majority impact.

Batterson Insight

“History hinges on a handful of people who refuse to blend in.”