



# IMPACT INTERVIEWS

## Men's Advance 2017



Excitement was in the air from the beginning of the Men's Advance. Right away, forty seats were reserved for Pastor Steve Dinkel and his men, who were there for the seventeenth year in a row! Also, an exclusive interview with James Brown took place at this conference. Men young and old from all over the United States came out to the 2017 Men's Advance and left changed by the power of God.

Here is what they had to say about it!

### **James Brown – Bethesda, Maryland – Men's Advance Speaker**

**"The programs that have been recorded [on our DVR] include Andrew Wommack, Andrew Wommack, Andrew Wommack, and a few others."**



#### **What is your name?**

My name is James Brown. Mother Brown gave me the biggest challenge in the world with that name, especially being in television, and you could imagine how many people thought I was the Godfather of Soul, James Brown.

#### **Where are you from?**

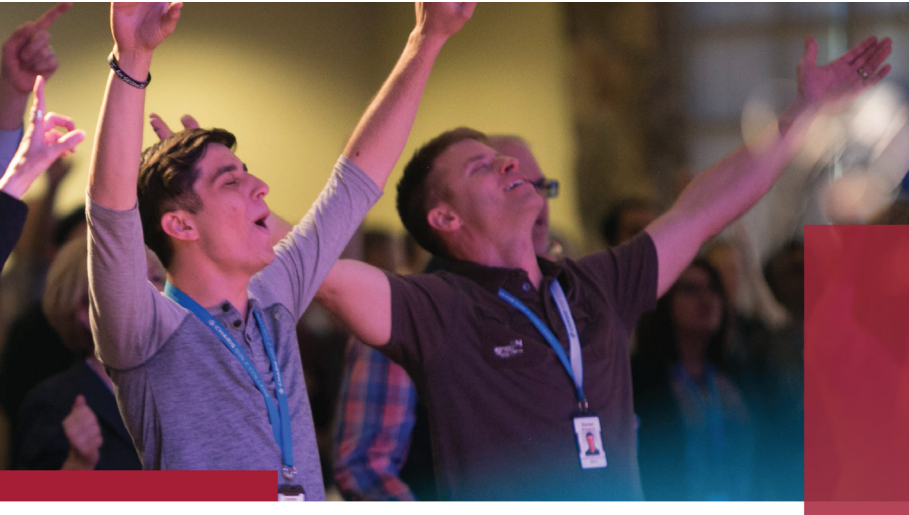
My hometown is Washington, D.C. My wife and I live in the suburbs of D.C. and Bethesda, Maryland, so that's pretty much my orbit. I love it there.

#### **Tell us about your occupation.**

Most people know me from sports. I'm a broadcaster with CBS Sports, and I'm blessed to host *The NFL Today* football show. Also, I host *Inside the NFL* on Showtime and *Thursday Night Football* on CBS. I'm really thanking the good Lord for the opportunity to be a correspondent for CBS News, where I get an opportunity to report across all the news platforms, including *60 Minutes*, *CBS Evening News*, and *CBS Sunday Morning*.

Many years ago, I was looking at the possibility of pursuing a career in television. I remember asking a veteran reporter back in Washington, "Is it possible that I could use this foray into television using the sports platform to do other things?" And he said, "That is not very likely." But then again, we know with Jesus all things are possible, and I'm very thankful to have broadened the horizons.

I think the degree that I can impact people's opinions by some of the stories I bring to the air fuels my interest as well. I'm prayerfully doing so in a very responsible fashion in order to be journalistically sound. I'm making certain it's all substantive and is showing the wide range of things that are going on out there. It's more than just a myopic viewpoint.



### **How did you become acquainted with Andrew Wommack?**

The way I became acquainted with Andrew Wommack is not much different than a number of other things that have happened to me in the faith arena—and that is through my wife, Dorothy Brown. She has been an awesome example of someone who is very passionate about her Christian growth, digging deep into the Word.

In our area, Andrew's program comes on early in the morning, and it's "appointment" television.... I have no control over the remote. The programs that have been recorded include Andrew Wommack, Andrew Wommack, Andrew Wommack, and a few others. So, I couldn't help but grow to love him because my wife was feasting on his excellent teachings. When two become married, they become one, so I support her totally. But I didn't realize how strong a supporter she was of Andrew Wommack Ministries. As a result of her support, she got a number of invitations to Andrew Wommack events, like the *Sower Seminar* and the *Healing Is Here Conference*. When Andrew came to our area back in the mid-Atlantic region to Hylton Chapel in Northern Virginia, my wife was there. She mentioned politely that I should attend the *Healing Is Here Conference*. And if she mentions it politely, that means "I expect you to be there." So, that's how I'm connected with Andrew, and I'm thoroughly enjoying it and growing.

It's very easy to give you an answer about a favorite Andrew Wommack teaching. It's all of them. He's that good.

### **What is your favorite teaching of Andrew's, and how has it impacted you?**

It's very easy to give you an answer about a favorite Andrew Wommack teaching. It's all of them. He's that good. But if I were forced to give a favorite, the message *You've Already Got It!* is certainly one that comes to mind. *Spirit, Soul & Body* is actually taking me a little deeper in my understanding of something I thought I already had a pretty good understanding of. Andrew is so good at everything that he teaches.

Another teaching is about preparing your heart [*How to Prepare Your Heart*]. It shows that Andrew isn't superficial in his teaching. He digs deeply into it, and he passes it along. He's very clear in his teaching style. The examples he uses are clearly



understood, and so is the passion with which he delivers it. He teases himself about being about as “fun as watching paint dry.” But it’s the Word that holds you, not the performance on TV, not the dazzling TV set. It’s the power, the truth, and the essence of the Word.

### **What did you like about the conference?**

I was extremely impressed. It was a packed house, and that’s so encouraging to see as a man. Oftentimes women are very supportive of events like this, but to see men come out was revelatory of what’s in their hearts. There was a desire to be fed and to learn.

Admittedly, while a good number of the attendees were mature Christians, there were a number of men who acknowledged that they weren’t aware of what God’s purpose was for their lives. When Andrew asked them honestly to stand up, there were probably about 600 men who stood up from what Andrew told me. That was very revealing.

### **What are your reflections on being a conference speaker?**

Well, I prayed to the Lord that the message would fall on the fallow ground of some hearts to help encourage them, to encourage them to at least be moving in a forward direction and to be obedient to God’s Word. That would be in His will as well. I just wanted to be sharp and clear, remove myself from the equation, and just be a willing and obedient vessel to deliver what the Lord was asking me to emphasize.

Afterwards, I whispered in Andrew’s ear and thanked him very much for trusting the Jesus in me to be a part of this ministry and effort with this men’s conference. I was praying prior to ministering to the men, truly understanding that this is not about me. It’s about the men. It’s about God’s Word. And I just wanted to be a willing and hopefully able vessel in delivering what the Lord wanted me to say. To God be the glory!

### **Is there anything else you would like to say?**

Andrew, I can’t express in words well enough how thankful I am that you would extend an invitation for me to be a part of the men’s conference [Men’s Advance]. I know how passionate you are about the Word of God. You’ve lived it. You’ve modeled it. The Lord’s movement in your life is evident through Charis Bible College and its global impact. I’m just so thankful to be one part of the body of Christ in hopefully bringing something of meaning to the men who were attending this year’s conference.

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## **Joel Barhorst – Greenville, Ohio – Age 14**

### **What do you like about the conference?**

I really enjoy it because we get to go on planes, and [I] enjoy getting out of school for a few days. I get to come and hear Andrew and spend time with people. I got to meet Andrew Wommack, Barry Bennett, and Greg Mohr.

### **How did you become acquainted with Andrew Wommack?**

I'm from Greenville, Ohio, I'm in junior high, and I like to study the Word. I became acquainted with Andrew because my parents would watch him, so I would watch him too. So, it was basically my parents.

### **What is your favorite teaching of Andrew's, and how has it impacted you?**

The one I like would be *You've Already Got It!* You don't need to get healing. You already have it in your spirit, the same power that raised Christ from the dead. It's just a matter of knowing how to get it out and how to receive it by faith—the same power I've been learning about. I've seen healings before, and I've seen it work. Several times I got sick before, and I just stood in faith and got healed. I did it before when I would pray in tongues for people that were sick, and I saw them get healed. Yes, I've seen it work.

My other favorite is a teaching about the sower and how the kingdom works. So, the kingdom works as a seed that the sower planted. With trees, they first start out as a seed, a little tiny thing, and then you plant the seed and let it grow until it becomes a ginormous tree, such as the sequoia trees in California. They're really tall. And that's how the kingdom works with anything. Like healing, sometimes you got to plant a seed. Same with prosperity; you got to plant a seed. Take, for instance, by His stripes, I was healed [1 Peter 2:24]. Just speak that, declare it, believe it. The Word is important, and it's important to speak and know how to pray right when you do it.

### **How are you enjoying the conference?**

I like pretty much all the stuff. I like the worship, the teaching, and the games we get to play. I think Dave Hinton was awesome and really good at the guitar. I do like the worship because that's what's awesome—when you praise the Lord like David did on an eight-stringed harp. Praise God!

### **What would you like to share with others about this conference?**

You should come to the *Men's Advance* because we do fun activities, and there's no age limit. I'm fourteen, and I'm enjoying it. There's a nine-year-old here too! And 'cause you need to grow in the knowledge of the Word. All of us do.



## Pastor Steve Dinkel – Hays, Kansas

**"I think becoming a partner of Andrew Wommack really raised me to a whole other level of understanding on partnership."**

### What is your occupation?

I'm the pastor of Liberty Foursquare Church in Hays, Kansas.

### How did you become acquainted with Andrew Wommack?

A friend who started attending our church gave me a series of tapes on God's divine love [*God's Kind of Love: The Cure for What Ails Ya!*]. That series was life-changing for me. He talked about spiritual dyslexia—how we read the Bible backwards a lot of times. He put me on my feet with the love of God. I still listen to that series, and that was 1999 when I got that first series of tapes.

### What does partnership with Andrew Wommack Ministries mean to you?

I think becoming a partner with Andrew Wommack really raised me to a whole other level of understanding on partnership. There's just a divine flow that comes from partnership. For example, we're at the *Men's Advance* right now, and the partnership that we have with Andrew really flows to the men that come with us to this event. Every time we come, without exception, there are miracles. There's always a healed marriage, somebody getting filled with the Holy Spirit, someone being healed, and someone being called to the ministry. It's never small, and this year is the same. We always attend. I don't have to convince people in our church to come to this. The ladies send their men because they come back different, and I believe that's all, or at least in large part, because of our partnership. We're connected. We hooked our wagon to his, and I think he's hooked his wagon to us. He's very committed to his partners and to those who are faithful to him. I've never met a more faithful minister than Andrew.

We just finished a facility and dedicated it in April, and we did it debt free. I believe that's because of partnership. We had a conversation with Andrew when he was buying this land [for Charis Bible College], and he drove us up here and showed it to us. I asked him, "How did you do this debt free?" He said, "You have to be able to see it in your heart, and you have to be able to impart that to the people you're ministering to." He said, "Start casting the vision of God doing something miraculous. That's just the power of partnership—connecting with someone that's doing it and then doing it together."

### What is your favorite teaching of Andrew's, and how has it impacted you?

I think the anchor teaching for me is one of his *God's Kind of Love* teachings. It's a series that I've heard him teach at this conference a couple of times, and it's one that I still have in my library and play all the time. It talks about what happened to him in 1968 and how we get upside down trying to get God to love us. We try to do things

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to please God instead of understanding that God already is pleased with us. All we have to do is receive His love, and then out of His love comes all the other things. We are so works-based that we think we're earning a living at our jobs. We're very task-oriented and reward-oriented in our culture, and that bleeds over into Christianity. Andrew's *God's Kind of Love* series challenges that mindset in the church, and you realize everything coming out of God moves toward us first. He loved us first. We need to respond to His love.

### How are you enjoying the conference?

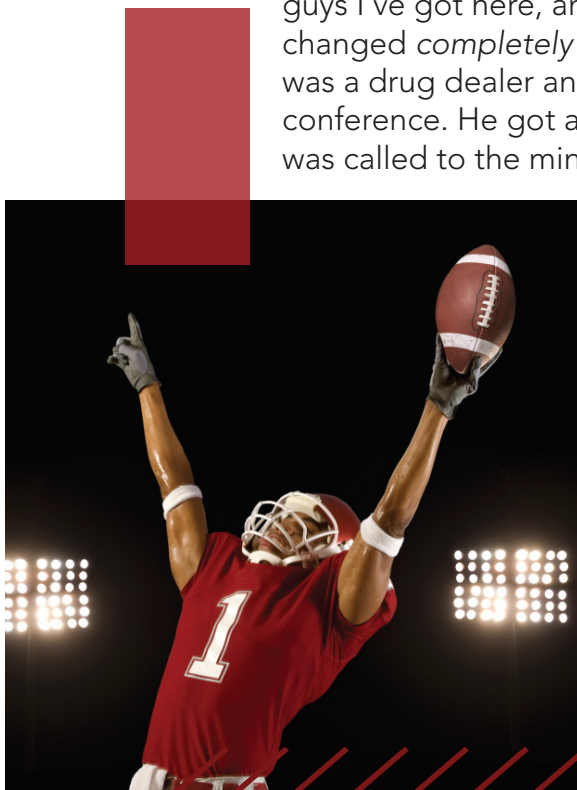
We started in 2002 with six people in Winter Park, Colorado, for the men's conference. This is the 2017 *Men's Advance*, and we've not missed a men's conference since 2002. The miracles never cease. We've had marriages healed here. There are people you want to minister to, but you're not getting anywhere. We load 'em up and bring 'em here, and God meets them here and their lives are changed. Then they bring their friends. We have forty chairs reserved because those people are the ones who are still very closely connected to us. We have seven churches here [that we're connected to] right now. So, if we were to add up all those folks, there'd be several hundred people who've come as a result of what happens every year at the *Men's Advance*. And this sets the tone for the entire year. What's God going to do this year? I believe what we're hearing in this conference is what God is doing this year for us. It sets a tone for our study, our faith, and our community.

### Why do you come to the *Men's Advance*?

We come to the men's conference because God does something here every year. Ministry is getting harder. The culture around us is less and less impacted by the church, and we have greater challenges. Most of the time it's bigger than one guy can do or one church can do, and we're part of the body of Christ. Andrew's ministry here is really revolutionary. It sets people free. It sets men free. You could talk to any of the guys I've got here, and they'd say their lives are not just changed a little bit. They're changed *completely* after this event, and it's for good. We had a guy come here who was a drug dealer and had gotten saved just a few weeks before I invited him to this conference. He got a back injury and was on disability. He got healed, though, and was called to the ministry. He came out here for three years of Bible school, and he's back in his hometown serving God now. The testimonies that my guys will give back home will bring a bunch more guys again next year.

### Would you like to say anything to Andrew?

It was somewhere around 1999 or 2000, maybe 2001, that I started listening to his tapes. I was on the road in sales before I was in ministry, so I listened to his tapes endlessly. I pulled up into a little western Kansas town on Interstate 70 to get gas and buy lunch. I turned the car off, but I thought I heard Andrew's voice. I thought, *I'm listening to his tapes too much because the car's off, the tape player's off, and I'm still hearing his voice. It must be my imagination.* So, I just kind of forgot about it. And





then I heard it again because he has a unique voice. I thought, *What's going on here?*

I had just filled the gas tank and went into the Subway® to get a sandwich, when the guy in front of me goes, "Did anybody ask Andrew what he wants for lunch?"

I asked, "Is Andrew Wommack in that van out there?"

And he said, "Who wants to know?"

I said, "Well, I'm just a pastor and a friend that's a partner of his."

"Yeah, he's out there."

So, I went out to the parking lot and met him. He was driving a van across Kansas to a conference in Kansas City. We became friends in the parking lot of a Subway® in WaKeeney, Kansas. He's never forgotten that, and he never forgets me. Out of all the thousands of people that guy sees all the time, when I get here, Andrew comes up to me and says, "Steve, how're you doing?" In my mind, that says a lot about him. He's a great guy. So, Andrew, thank you for all you've done for us. Our church is growing. Our ministry is prospering because of the influence you've had on us. Thank you.



### **Layton Hein – Hays, Kansas**

#### **Where are you from, and what is your occupation?**

I'm from Hays, Kansas. I'm an account executive. I work for a home health agency called Angels Care Home Health.

#### **What is your favorite teaching of Andrew's, and how has it impacted you?**

My favorite teaching of Andrew's is *The Believer's Authority*. I read that book and listened to that CD at least a hundred times. That's not an exaggeration! That teaching greatly impacted me. Through the weeks and months, my wife could see a change. And because of Andrew, this teaching, and my pastor's help, our marriage was restored. Our marriage is stronger now than it's ever been. I read the book and [listened to] the CD, and it helped me understand that when things happen to me, I don't just have to accept them or believe that it's God's will. It's not God's will. I understand John 10:10 because of Andrew's book, and that helped me understand the Enemy is bringing things against me, but I don't have to receive any of it. So, in my marriage, when there would be unforgiveness, discouragement, or even frustration—just because it knocks on my door doesn't mean I have to let it in. I would take authority over those things, and to my surprise, a lot of those things just started dwindling away. Our marriage became stronger and better, trust was restored, and the love came back into the relationship.

### **What does partnership with Andrew Wommack Ministries mean to you?**

Andrew has taught me what partnership means. I will never forget one of his examples: If you go to McDonald's to eat, you don't cross the street and pay Burger King® the money. I was fed not only in my local church but also by Andrew. My wife and I wanted to give back to this ministry because it saved our marriage.

### **What do you like about the conference?**

Our pastor, Steve Dinkel, told us about the *Men's Advance*. Pastor Steve knew my wife had told me she was ready for a divorce, and he said, "You're going to come to the men's conference with us." Thanks to my pastor's counsel, I decided to go. It was a small group; I think about seven of us. And I loved hearing James Brown. Obviously, I had seen him on television with football, but one of the things I loved about him was how he related to his bosses and the people he worked with who were unsaved. Hearing how he approached those relationships with integrity and honesty really helped me.

### **Would you like to say anything to Andrew?**

He and my pastor were two people that saved our marriage. His teaching of *The Believer's Authority* played a key role in that. Also, I've seen two of my brothers and a nephew get baptized in the Spirit and their families changed because of this ministry. So, I'll always be grateful for what he's done in teaching me how I can stand in Christ because of who I am and take authority over those things. Thank you, Andrew.

### **Is there anything else you would like to say?**

I think the biggest thing is the importance of being in the Word daily. It's not good enough to be in the Word once a week or twice a week. You've got to be in the Word daily, so you can hear from God, get direction, and know what to do.

*Submissions have been edited for length and clarity.*

