



The Fight For Our Fathers

WEEK 2 DISCUSSION GUIDE

OVERVIEW

In this message of the series entitled, *Conquer Impossibilities*, we will honor our fathers this Father's Day and learn how to fight for our faith, family, and future heritage.

DISCUSSION

Man was to be a giver and protector, not a taker and destroyer. Man's first commandment from God was found in **Genesis 2:15: *Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.***

1 Kings 2:1-3: *Now the days of David drew near that he should die, and he charged Solomon his son, saying: "I go the way of all the earth; be strong, therefore, and prove yourself a man. And keep the charge of the Lord your God: to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes, His commandments, His judgments, and His testimonies, as it is written in the Law of Moses, that you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn.*

As David prepared to leave this life, he gave his son, Solomon, The Five Steps Of Proving Yourself To Be A Man:

1. Realize life is a temporary assignment with eternal consequences.
"I go the way of all the earth." (1 Kings 2:2) We are eternal, spiritual beings having a temporary, physical experience on earth. Three lies many believe when they are young are: I'm going to live forever (I'm bullet-proof), I'm all that and a bag of chips, and I'm making choices that only affect me (I'll outrun the consequences of the bad ones).
 - Our temporary time on earth directly impacts our own and others' eternity. How does this challenge you? How does this encourage you?
2. You prove your manhood by obedience to God.
"Be strong and prove yourself a man." (1 Kings 2:2) Only the strong can say, "Yes" to God and "No" to: our flesh when tempted, old ungodly friends when we're weak, our failures when we're discouraged. Real manhood is putting God and family first instead of sacrificing them on the altar of 'pleasing yourself' or the 'pursuit of more.'
 - How can we grow in our obedience to God?

3. It takes courage to walk with God and stay on the path.
“Keep charge of the Lord your God to walk.” (1 Kings 2:3) The more we walk with God and make choices that align with His Word, the more we will grow to be like Jesus. The path to life is the road of self-denial and surrender to Jesus.
 - Why can it be difficult to deny ourselves?
 - What’s something you struggle to surrender to God?
4. Don’t forget what God did for me.
“Keep His statutes, judgments and testimony.” (1 Kings 2:3)
 - Think of a time when God impacted your life. How does remembering that time help you face your current challenges?
5. What God blessed in me, He will bless in you.
“That you may prosper in all that you do and wherever you turn.” (1 Kings 2:3) David is saying the blessing of God on Solomon’s life will not come because of David but will come if he follows God the same way David did. Even though life throws things at us that we don’t foresee, God shows us how we can conquer impossibilities and receive His blessing by fighting for our faith, family and future heritage.
 - How can we fight to live God’s way when we are being tempted by the enemy?
 - Why is it important that we choose God’s way because of our love for God and not only to receive His blessing?

A Real Gladiator’s Life Is A Life Of...

1. Commitment – to God and those that love you.
2. Constraint – My manhood is measured by what I “put away.”
3. Control – self-control is a man’s greatest control.
4. Contentment – Thankful and grateful for what God gave me.

LIFE CHALLENGE

Ponder on these five truths from this message:

1. Know that the keys to The Kingdom are not given away easily.
2. Prepare to go through trials to be trained for leadership.
3. Understand that taking your life into your own hands is sin.
4. Recognize that success is dependent upon obedience to God.
5. Trust in God, His Word and build with His people!!

PRAYER REQUESTS & CLOSE IN PRAYER