

MESSAGE - WHEN MEN FIGHT

Intro.

This message is directed toward the men but it is also for the women to know for your support and strength.

– **When I was a child I put away childish things**

1 Cor. 13:11 When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

– There is a difference when men fight compared too when children fight.

– Children fight over silly things (over things that don't matter), men fight for what matters

– When children fight there might be some scrapes and bruises but when men fight that is damage.

We see fights through out the Bible Etc. 3:8 says there is a time for WAR and a time for peace.

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David's Mighty Warriors

2 Samuel 23:8-17 These are the names of David's mighty warriors:

Josheb-Basshebeth, a Tahkemonite, was chief of the Three; he raised his spear against eight hundred men, whom he killed in one encounter....

– We see man who was: brave, full of faith, and used

his gift (the spear).

....**9** Next to him was Eleazar son of Dodai the Ahohite. As one of the three mighty warriors, he was with David when they taunted the Philistines gathered at Pas Dammim for battle. Then the Israelites retreated, **10** but Eleazar stood his ground and struck down the Philistines till his hand grew tired and froze to the sword. The Lord brought about a great victory that day. The troops returned to Eleazar, but only to strip the dead.....

- Israel retreated

- Eleazar stood his ground)killed then enemy.

- God gave him a great victory.

- Then the army returned to for the spoils (sometimes we need men to fight so others can get the spoils)

....**11** Next to him was Shammah son of Agee the Hararite. When the Philistines banded together at a place where there was a field full of lentils, Israel's troops fled from them. **12** But Shammah took his stand in the middle of the field. He defended it and struck the Philistines down, and the Lord brought about a great victory.

- Israel fled away.

- Shammah took his stand IN THE MIDDLE OF THE FIELD (Open to attack from every angle the odds was against him)

- He fought for the food, provision, & blessings

- God gave him a victory.

13 During harvest time, three of the thirty chief warriors came down to David at the cave of Adullam, while a band of Philistines was encamped in the Valley of Rephaim.

14 At that time David was in the stronghold, and the Philistine garrison was at Bethlehem. **15** David longed for water and said, "Oh, that someone would get me a drink of water from the well near the gate of Bethlehem!" **16** So the three mighty warriors broke through the Philistine lines, drew water from the well near the gate of Bethlehem and carried it back to David. But he refused to drink it; instead, he poured it out before the Lord. **17** "Far be it from me, Lord, to do this!" he said. "Is it not the blood of men who went at the risk of their lives?" And David would not drink it.

Such were the exploits of the three mighty warriors.

- These men risked there lives for the need of another
- They were successful
- It became a sacrificial worship unto the Lord

– **When men choose to fight for whats right, God gives VICTORIES**

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– **The reason we are in the shape we (society) are in is because a lot of MEN have:**

Stopped fighting

or

Fighting for the wrong things

– **Why do some MEN stop fighting**

...Scared - Don't want to deal with issues or conflict for doing what's right.

...Selfish - Consumed with personal gain

...Sleeping - Can be good and bad. It's bad when God is speaking and you fall asleep (like falling out a window and breaking your neck when an apostolic word is being released)

- **What are some wrong things men have fought for** (EXPLAIN; I'm not meaning u can't have these things, just not at the expense of what we should be fighting for. (EX. Like sitting back and doing our own thing while our family or neighbors are being attacked.)

...Comfort, Pleasure, & Personal Gain

- **What is the root of the problem?**

We have lost a heart for GOD and his HEART.

We have been deceived that sin is not a problem.

We're not needed or important

- **How do we become fighters** (Remember we do not wrestle against flesh & blood) **TAKE YOUR PHONES OUT**

1. Becoming worshipers (2 types - by sacrifice and for pleasure)

2. Doing what we are called to do (carrying our cross, exercising our gift)

3. Being men of the WORD and PRAYER
(Wednesday Prayer)

4. Standing up for what's right when the need arises (with family, neighbors, strangers, etc.)

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– **Why is this important for MEN?**

WE ARE THE GATEWAYS! (This is a role that God has placed on men. Women have different roles)

– **PROOF**

Jesus said I am the gate - John 10:9 I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture.

-Jesus was speaking as a savior and as a man.

-Remember Jesus was the 2nd Adam, through him came life that the 1st Adam lost.

-The 1st Adam was a gateway/doorway as well, When ADAM and Eve sinned who did God go to first? ADAM, because he was the gateway (he was technically responsible)

- Romans 5:12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned15 But the free gift is not like the offense. For if by the one man's offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many.

-We see Adam and Jesus as men were gateways to SIN & BLESSING.

-Deuteronomy 5:8 'You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of *anything* that is in heaven

above, or that *is* in the earth beneath, or that *is* in the water under the earth; **9** you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the Lord your God, *am* a jealous God, **visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me**, **10** but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

- In the Bible MEN are gateways....WE ARE GATEWAYS TO BLESSING AND CURSE.

So if a man stops fighting for whats right or accepts sin then that becomes a generational issue for the generations to come.

ENDING

We (as a nation, as a state, as a community, as a family, as a neighbor) need MEN who are willing to be FIGHTERS OF GOD.

This means:

1. Being worshipers (2 types - by sacrifice and for pleasure)
2. Doing what we are called to do (carrying our cross, exercising our gift)
3. Being men of the WORD and PRAYER
4. Standing up for what's right when the need arises (with family, neighbors, strangers, etc.)

