

Life Group Lesson - Week of June 4

David was a warrior with a shepherd's heart. Because he was a strong leader, he attracted valiant men to fight the Lord's battles. Second Samuel 23:8-39 names the "Three" and the "Thirty" —mighty men who specifically fought alongside king David in fiercest times. These verses give a few examples of their heroic feats and exploits. We must remember that although the Lord had given Israel this land, they were surrounded by enemy nations, and the threat of occupation was nearly constant.

Before God's people entered the land, Moses warned them to fear God alone and trust Him. This would be key to "live long in the land" (see Deuteronomy 30:19-20). Like the nation of Israel, we too must depend upon the Lord for victory. Our battle may not look like what David and his men faced, but there is a war being waged over us. "For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities in the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places" (Ephesians 6:12).

Read 2 Samuel 23:8-17

1. These men were fighters, willing to fight for what they believed in. Who is looking to you for protection—are you willing to fight for them?

If we want our marriage to endure, we must fight. If we want a Christian home, we must fight. If we want to be free from debt and instead honor God with our finances, we must fight. If we want to break the chain of addiction and other destructive behaviors, we must fight. Stop now and ask the Lord to show you what to do and equip you. Remember, the battle belongs to Him.

2. These men were faithful. They stood by David's side in the fiercest storms of war. Who do you have in your life willing to stand with you in your battle? Could you be counted on to stand with someone in their time of battle? Who is depending on you to fight alongside of them right now?
3. These men were finishers. They didn't give up, but fought until the enemy was subdued. What does the Lord tell us in His word in Philippians 1:6? Write it down and thank the Lord that He will complete what He began.

What good fight did you commence at one time but then perhaps through distraction, indifference or fatigue, retreated? Is it time to fight again?

4. These men were risk-takers. They loved David and risked their lives to get their king a drink of water from the well by the gate of Bethlehem (see 2 Samuel 23:15-17). What are you willing to risk for your King?

When we fight for what really matters, not only will we find fulfillment, we will find ourselves marching in-step with our warrior King, our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ who reigns in ultimate glory and victory!

Open up, ancient gates! Open up, ancient doors, and let the King of glory enter. Who is the King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty; the LORD, invincible in battle. Psalm 24:7-8

And it is no small thing when at the end of David's life and reign the Bible would say: Now the Lord gave them rest from all their enemies.

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Text: 2 Samuel 23: 8-17

Plain Truth:

**Fulfillment rarely comes from _____
it _____, you must _____.**

1. They were _____.
2. They were _____.
3. They were _____.
4. They were _____.



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