

Bullets, Bacon, and Beef  
Three lessons from the life of David  
Father's Day  
Sunday, June 19, 2022

The sermon title is completely random and basically just a note about how my search went for Father's day gifts for all the men at RITH

Just as I said on Mother's day, children don't make you Fathers (or mothers), God makes you a Father. If you are made in his image, and he is a Father, then that is what made you a father. So whether you have children of your own or not, if you are a male, we celebrate you today. That celebration doesn't cheapen the unique challenges that children bring to fathers...but rather draws attention to the fact that even our young boys here are fathers in training. And even our men who don't have children of their own can be spiritual fathers.

Just as my sermon on Mother's day leaned towards being focused on the ladies, today's will lean towards being focused on the men...but that's ok.

We just finished a series, as a men's group, called The Quest for Authentic Manhood with Dr. Robert Lewis. He defines manhood biblically as one who:

1. Rejects passivity
2. Accepts responsibility
3. Leads courageously
4. Expects the greater reward, God's reward

I fully agree with Dr. Lewis' estimation of the biblical definition of manhood. Males are born, men are made...and our culture is not in the man making business. That means that the home and the church are the primary man-making venues.

We need real men, real husbands, real fathers. Husbands who reject passivity in every area of their life and their families' life. Father's who accept responsibility. Men who lead courageously. The church needs real men, and the world needs real men. **MEME**

Sadly, this meme is wildly accurate. It's pathetic and embarrassing. Look at the difference in the last 20 years...on 9/11 you saw hundreds of police officers, firemen, and EMS running to their almost certain death up the stairs of the twin

towers to save people. What courage. Hold that picture in your minds next to some of the cowardice we've seen in recent weeks.

My desire, and I believe the Lord's desire is to see his sons be real men. And today, I want to look at 3 of David's attributes and how they can help us become better men, husbands, and fathers.

**David was a fierce warrior** - lion and bear, Goliath, other giants, Philistines and many other enemy nations as king. His body count was around 140,000...best guess. He carried Goliath's head back to town to celebrate.

1 Samuel 17:34-37 34 But David said to Saul, "Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, 35 I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. 36 Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. 37 The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine."

Saul said to David, "Go, and the Lord be with you."

**David was a wise leader** - going to the Lord before battle to ask what to do, not letting pride in - wisdom and humility are great company. Persuading Saul to let him fight Goliath when he was only a boy and NOT a member of the military.

**David was a fiery worshipper** - 2 Sam 6:5, 6:14, 6:21-22. 2 Sam 24:24 I will not sacrifice burnt offerings to the Lord that cost me nothing. He expressed his love and worship for the Lord in his public displays, his songs that he sang, and his writings (Psalms).