

Building Morale and Team Spirit - Part 1

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I. Introduction.

- A. A Roman band brought together to fight.
- B. In Scripture a band was brought together for this reason.
- C. Characteristics of the band: obedience and unity. (I Samuel 10:26; I Chronicles 30:12)

II. The chief minister. (Mark 10:42-44)

A. We understand the relationship as being leader and follower, but it needs to be seen as chief minister and ministers.

B. Relationships of the ultimate leader.

1. To his work: It was Christ's ultimate goal to lay down His life for His mission; this is the ultimate leader in a band who is willing to lay down his life for an accomplishment. Not many have done this. (Mark 10:45)

2. To his band:

- a. Christ was willing to lay down His life for His band. (John 10)
- b. Most are not this sold for the gospel or their band.
- c. The example of the self-sacrifice of Dawson Trotman.

3. He serves for His mission (Acts 20:24) and for His people (Romans 9:3; Exodus 32:31)

C. Relationships of the ultimate members.

1. To their work:

- a. The life is a sacrifice for the mission. (Revelation 12:11)
- b. The sacrificial attitude of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. (Daniel 2:49)

2. To their leader:

- a. The mighty men of David who were willing to lay down their life to get David a drink of water. (I Chronicles 11:16)
- b. General Eisenhower was a man whose band member (Paton) could lay his life down for.

3. To each other:

- a. They will also lay down their life for each other. (I John 3:16; Romans 5)
- b. Jonathan was willing to lay his life down for David.

D. Review: the masses in David's army could have not made a difference without the imprint of the thirty-three mighty men (I Chronicles 11:25)

E. Being willing to die for Christ is a prerequisite to living for Him. The Lord is interested in His followers living for Him. (Luke 9:24)

III. When a band of men becomes necessary.

- A. Leadership is accomplishing your objectives through the efforts of others.
- B. We need leaders and a band because the objective God has given us can only possibly be accomplished through others.
- C. Other reasons to develop a band is to look successful or to avoid work. These are the wrong motives.
- D. We look for a band when we cannot accomplish the objectives God has put on our hearts by ourselves.

IV. The quality of the person who becomes the chief minister of the band.

- A. David was attractive, masterful and skillful. (I Samuel 16:18)
- B. David did not want anything that his men did not have at first.
- C. The limitations of a member's responsibility to his leader. Uriah was disobedient to David when the King was trying to manipulate him to sleep with his wife whom he had been having an affair with, but was obedient when David sent him to the front lines of the war to be killed. This raises questions about the extent of obedience to the leader when ethics are being violated.

Application questions.

1. What observations did the speaker make about the relationships a leader and his band members have? What stands out to you about those relationships?

2. Where does a band member draw the line on obedience to his leader? At what point is it right to submit and at what point is it right to disobey? How would you assess Uriah's model?

3. Are you a band member or a leader of a band? Do you understand your purpose or calling in either of those positions? Take a moment to reflect upon the objective that God has placed upon your heart.
