

Discussion Guide for Son of the Sword

Questions

- Why do you think Gandren spent all her money on freeing Thad?
- Do you think Sheriff Albright wanted Gandren's father's sword for noble or selfish reasons?
- Learning to craft a sword took a long time for Thad. What are some skills you've had to work on for a long time to develop?
- "Fear is no match for love." This theme runs throughout this story. What verse in the Bible mirrors this truth?
 - HINT: check out the book of 1 John.
- Albright didn't trust Thad. Thad didn't trust Gandren. Where do you think the distrust came from?
- Why do you think Thad tried to steal paints?

- Who are some people you trust? Who are some that you can't trust?
 - Why or why not?
- Both Thad and Gandren were suffering from grief and pain in this story. Is there anyone in your life to whom you could try to bring comfort and support?
- Because Gandren had suffered deaths in her family, she was more able to comfort Thad in his pain. How do you think her actions go along with 2 Corinthians, chapter 1?

Comments

“I will not buy a person’s affections.”

This is good thing to remember. Many people try to gain love, acceptance, friendship, or position by trying to buy it in some way. True and lasting relationships are not transactional. They are only formed when done with humility and unselfishness. Proverbs 18:24, Ecclesiastes 5:10-12, 1 Timothy 6:10, and Proverbs 17:17 back this up.

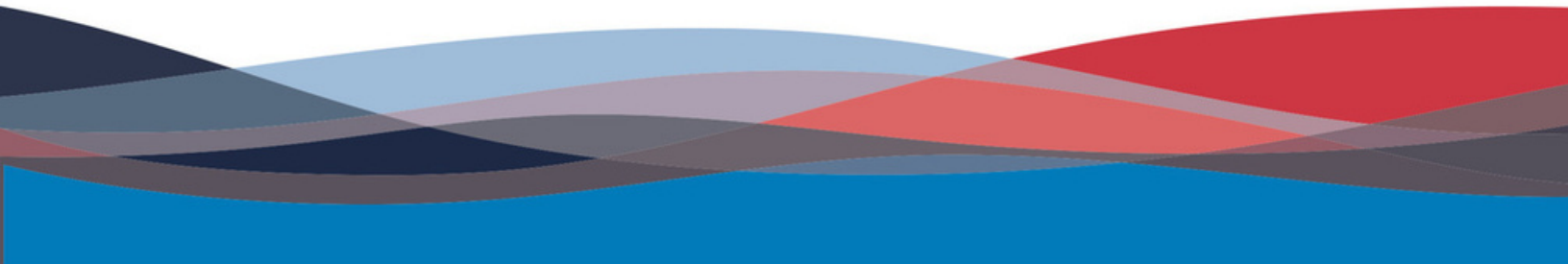


“What about... your father?”

Children who have lost parents, either because of death or abandonment, are very vulnerable in the world. However, God still cares and loves them and hasn't abandoned them. He also calls us to care for orphans and not to mistreat them. In this way, we can show them how God is our Heavenly Father and that they are never truly alone. Read Jeremiah 22:3, James 1:27, Isaiah 1:17, Psalm 68:5, and Exodus 22:22 to see what the Bible says about this topic.

“All good things, swords included, take time.”

Skills aren't learned overnight. Hard work comes before great rewards. Always look for ways to improve. In other words, accept the challenge, push through failure, and keep at something until the end goal is reached. Even then, we always need to stay humble and teachable. These are attributes that are needed in all areas of life, especially in our spiritual lives. Check out Galatians 6:9, 1 Corinthians 15:58, Proverbs 9:9, and Psalm 37:23-24 to find more insight.

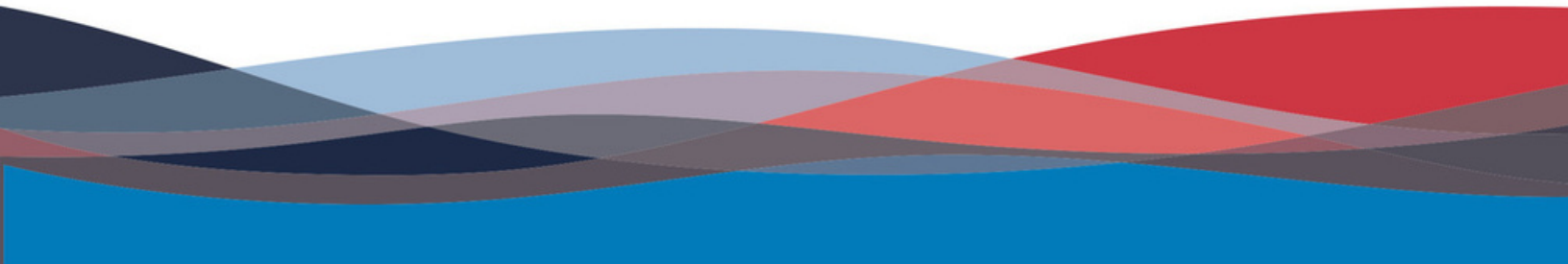


***“In untrained hands, a sword is dangerous
to the person wielding it.”***

A sword can be used for good or evil. This can apply to other things as well. For example, a smartphone. Access to anything and everything online without proper instruction, training, and boundaries can be very dangerous. The same principle applies even to our tongues! (James 3:3-12, Proverbs 18:21). Most anything can be used for selfish or unselfish reasons. We all have a choice to make: whether we will let things control us or if we will allow the Holy Spirit to control us when we use them (1 Corinthians 6:12).

“Your actions do not define my love.”

This is known as unconditional love. It's easy to love those who love us back and show us that through their actions. It's difficult to love someone who doesn't love us, or even hates us. But Christians are still called to love everyone (Luke 6:27-36). God is love (1 John 4:8), and we are to show that love to others (John 13:34)..



None of us deserve love (Romans 5:8), and we can do nothing to earn it (Ephesians 2:8-9). It was because of God's unconditional love that He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on a cross for all our sins (John 3:16). His sacrifice should make us willing to show sacrificial, unconditional love as well (John 15:13).

