

HEROES OF
FAITH

FIGHTING THE GOOD FIGHT



The background features a complex collage of historical maps and documents. A prominent red cross is visible in the upper right quadrant. The maps show various geographical features, including coastlines, rivers, and place names like 'FERRA' and 'AVS'. The overall color palette is dominated by gold, red, and dark tones.

MISSIONS OFFERING

AUGUST 8 & 15

"Fight the good fight of faith;
take hold of the eternal life to which you were called,
and for which you made the good confession in the
presence of many witnesses."

1 Timothy 6:12



**“Our goal is not a negotiated peace with the enemy,
but a total victory!”**

Peter Stevens

(Elder, recovering Brit, and my friend)



Our friends impact our victories

- “Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm” - **Proverbs 13:20**
- “One who has unreliable friends soon comes to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.” - **Proverbs 18:24**
- “Do not make friends with a hot-tempered person, do not associate with one easily angered, or you may learn their ways and get yourself ensnared.” - **Proverbs 22:24-25**
- Don't be fooled. “Bad company ruins good character.” - **1 Corinthians 15:33**



DAVID'S FRIENDS

Surrounding Yourself with Winners



Characteristics of Winners



1. Winners Stand Against the Odds

- **David's friend JB**
 - “These are the names of David's mighty warriors: Josheb-Basshebeth [JB] a Tahkemonite, was chief of the Three; he raised his spear against eight hundred men, whom he killed in one encounter.” – **2 Samuel 23:8**
- JB had a **fire in his heart!**
- *“If you have men who will only come if they know there is a good road, I don't want them. I want men who will come if there is no road at all.” – David Livingstone*



1. Winners Stand Against the Odds

- “Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.” – **Ephesians 6:13**
- Christians should be the most optimistic and unrealistic people on earth!



2. Winners Stay when Others Leave

- **David's friends Eli and Sham (2 Samuel 23:9-12)**



Eli and Sham (2 Samuel 23:9-12)

⁹ Next to him was **Eleazar {Eli}** 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.



Eli and Sham (2 Samuel 23:9-12)

¹¹ Next to him was **Shammah {Sham}** 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 {Sham} 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.



2. Winners Stay when Others Leave

- David's friends Eli and Sham (2 Samuel 23:9-12)
- Eli/ Sham stayed faithful when other's didn't.
- "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity."
– Proverbs 27:17
- *"A true friend unbosoms [shares his deep thoughts] freely, advises justly, assists readily, adventures boldly, takes all patiently, defends courageously, and continues a friend unchangeably." - William Penn*



3. Winners do “Great Exploits” Together



~~3. Winners do “Great Exploits” Together~~

3. Winners do Dumb Stuff Together

- **David's Friend Jonathan and His Armor-bearer** (1 Samuel 14:6-7, 14-15)



Jonathan and AB (1 Samuel 14:6-7, 14-15)

⁶ Jonathan said to his young armor-bearer, "Come, let's go over to the outpost of those uncircumcised men. Perhaps the Lord will act in our behalf. Nothing can hinder the Lord from saving, whether by many or by few."

⁷ "Do all that you have in mind," his armor-bearer said. "Go ahead; I am with you heart and soul."

¹⁴ In that first attack Jonathan and his armor-bearer killed some twenty men in an area of about half an acre.

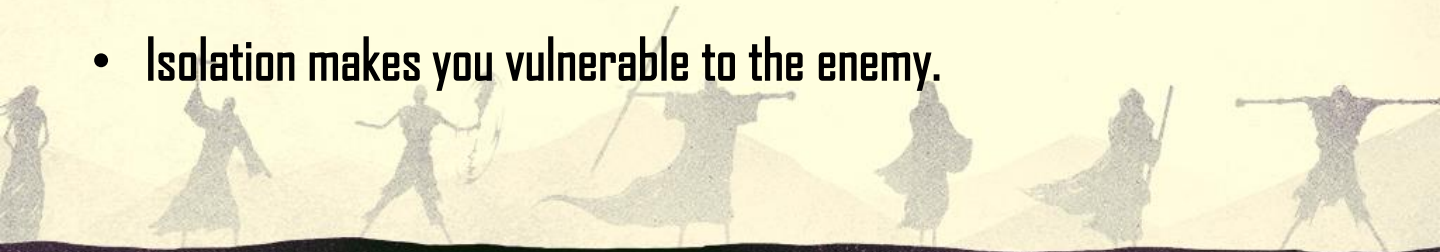
¹⁵ Then panic struck the whole army—those in the camp and field, and those in the outposts and raiding parties—and the ground shook. It was a panic sent by God.



~~3. Winners do “Great Exploits” Together~~

3. Winners do Dumb Stuff Together

- **David's Friend Jonathan and His Armor-bearer (1 Samuel 14:6-7, 14-15)**
- **Jonathan and AB has a bit of crazy in their eyes.**
- *“Friendship is born at that moment when one person says to another, ‘You too? I thought I was the only one.’” - C.S. Lewis*
- **Isolation makes you vulnerable to the enemy.**



“Nothing in the world is worth having or worth doing unless it means effort, pain, difficulty... I have never in my life envied a human being who led an easy life. I have envied a great many people who led difficult lives and led them well.”

Teddy Roosevelt



HEROES OF
FAITH

FIGHTING THE GOOD FIGHT

