

Warrior & Worshiper!

I. Slide #1 Announcements:

- A. Slide #2 November is *Adoption Awareness Month* & today is Orphan Sunday.
1. A few stats:
 2. There are 15 million orphans worldwide that have **lost both parents**.
 3. There are 164 million **single parent** orphans worldwide. (*more than the population of Russia*)
 4. There are 423,000 children in the Foster Care system in U.S.
 - a) If **1%** of the populations of *every Christian church body* would foster and/or adopt w/in our U.S. Foster system, **then** every at risk child would be placed!
 5. Slide #3 **Balloons**: 25,000 children that age out of the foster care system each year in just the U.S. (age 18), many w/no support system & little to no life skills.
 - a) These **68 balloons** represent the **68 kids** who will age out...just today!
- B. Celebrate & pray for:
1. **Stand...** Those who have now, or have **fostered** children.
 2. **Stand...** Those who have **Adopted**.
 3. **Stand...** Those who are a monthly **sponsors** of children abroad [Kel's UKR fam 1/adopt 4]
- C. After service we have 2 ministries represented: (I'll mention 3)
1. Slide #4 **I.C.A.** (*Charlotte couldn't make it*) – Handles Adoption Services, Foster Family Services, Counseling & Support Services, & Family Training. **Not** just International adoption, **ask about domestic zero-cost adoptions!**
 2. Slide #5 **Rose Barnes**: looks for sponsors for orphans for summer camps in China; as well as helping some of the orphans to get in to better situations.
 3. Slide #6 **Mercy Projects**: I think we'd all agree the best place to raise a child is not an institution, but in a **family**. Part of MP's monthly child sponsorships financially help Ukrainian families to adopt Ukrainian orphans right into their home [raised in own culture]
- D. Slide #7 10 ways to care: Pray for them; Speak up for them; Provide for their needs; Support those who support them; Protect them from harm; Visit them where they are; Give sacrificially to them; Encourage them to press on; Adopt them into your family; Mobilize your church for them. Slide #8&9(auto)

II. INTRO:

- A. Slide #10 We continue in *David's Victory Song* at the end of his life.

B. Outline: The Warrior & The Worshipper. Slide #11

III. THE WARRIOR! (29-46)

- A. The picture here is that of a *courageous warrior* letting nothing stand in the way of *victory*.
1. He's running through a troop or "*breaking through the enemies barricades*", even *scaling a wall* to take a city.
- B. (29) *You are my lamp* - David could say, *The Lord is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear?* (Ps.27:1) [*Fear?* Life, failure, the unknown, financial disaster; being laid off, losing someone you love]
1. In the *darkest* times, David found a *Lamp* to light his way.
 2. When days are dark, *the Lord* is our only Light!
- C. (31) *His Word is...proven* - *What is God's Word to you?*
1. Are you more concerned with Getting His Word *right*, or getting it *lived*?
 2. Are you more concerned with stacking your theology in neat piles like *crackers*, or is your desire to squeeze His Word like *grapes* seeking after its *juice*?
 3. Are you more concerned with taking His Word into the laboratory to *dissect* it, or taking it into your soul & *assimilating* it.
- D. (33-35) *He makes* - David was a gifted warrior, *but* it was the *anointing power* of the Lord that enabled him to succeed on the battlefield.
1. In the strength of the Lord David was invincible.
 2. Slide #12 George Whitefield quote, *We are immortal until our work on earth is done*
- E. (34) God became David's *Strength, Song, & his Salvation!*
1. If my legs were shaking, I probably would be looking for a place to sit down...*not* bounding up the side of a mountain, like a *deer!* Slide #13
 2. The Lord gives us "bounding feet" so we can overcome the obstacles of life.
 3. God doesn't always change the *circumstances*, *but* He can change *us* to meet the circumstances!
 4. Faith gives you the ability to stand *sure-footed* like a deer, & to be able to *run-swiftly & go higher* than ever before!
 5. Like the eagle & like the deer, God made us for the heights! Slide #14(blank)
 - a) They both will go down into the valley *but* that's not where they *live!* (us too!)
 6. *Garibaldi, the great Italian Patriot*[Led 1000 volunteers in the capture of Sicily/Naples 1860] appealed for recruits in these terms, "*I offer neither pay, nor quarters, nor provisions; I offer hunger, thirst, forced marches, battles & death. Let him who loves his country in his heart, & not w/his lips only, follow me.*"
 - a) Jesus didn't come to make *life easy* *but* to make *men great!*

- F. (36) When you look back on your years of difficulties & struggles, do you see *the hardness of life*, or **the gentleness of God**?
1. David affirmed that *the yoke was easy & the burden was light*. (Mt.11:28-30)
 2. *Your life today may seem hard, keep trusting & obeying. One day God will give you your own victory song!* (Warren Wiersbe)
 3. *Your gentleness has made me great...* is David's amazement that the Lord would *stoop down* to make him great.
 - a) *God the Father condescends to work in our lives & to fit us for the work of His choosing.*
 - b) Is.57:15 *For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, With him who has a contrite and humble spirit, To revive the spirit of the humble, And to revive the heart of the contrite ones.*
 - c) *God the Son stooped down, when He came to earth as a man;
God the Spirit stooped down, when He came to live in the lives of the people of God.*
- G. (37) *So my feet did not slip*(turn an ankle) - with the Lord as your Lamp in a dark forest you don't see all the trees, but you do see a few steps ahead of you. (Burma night hike/red head lamp)
1. *As the Lord lights your path, He may not shine all the answers to your shadowy questions in your mind, **but** He will give you the light you need to scale life's obstacles w/confidence & agility.*
- H. (38-46) You might **cringe** as we read his description of his victories (ie. stepping on their necks. 41)
1. But these are truly *battles of the Lord*. What we really can term "Just War!"
 2. *If these nations had defeated & destroyed Israel, what would happen to God's great plan of salvation? We wouldn't have a **bible**, & we wouldn't have a **Savior!***
 - a) In rebelling against the Lord & worshiping idols, these pagan nations had sinned against a **flood of light**, so they were *w/o excuse*.
 - b) The Lord had been patient with them for many years, but they had spurned His grace.
 - c) *Thus, they were ground to powder* (43).

IV. **THE WORSHIPPER!** (47-51) Slide #15

- A. David's *shout of praise*(47-51) was his bold witness to these subjected peoples *that* their **dead idols** could not *save* nor *protect* them.
1. Only Jehovah, the God of Israel, is the true & living God.
 2. *God was his Champion!* Slide #16(blank)
- B. (51) *To David and his descendants Forevermore* - David wraps up his victory song with his toes on the edge of a canyon, looking out into the future, & visualizing Gods eternal promises

cutting through the clouds like shafts of sunlight.

C. Review:

1. What thrilled the heart of David? *God Himself!* (mentioned at least 19 x's)
 2. David saw God in the affairs of his life, both sunny days & in stormy seasons.
 3. David saw God's purposes in his life, w/Israel, w/gentiles & rejoiced to be a part of it.
 4. David saw God's gentle hand, despite *trials, troubles & trauma* along the way.
 - a) Ps.4:1 *You have relieved me in my distress* (lit. *You have enlarged me in a tight corner*)
 - b) David's **battleground** turned into his **proving ground** for his faith.
 5. *And this can be our experience as well!*
- D. Slide #17 David, a **Warrior** that **fights on his feet**; but equally comfortable as, a **Worshiper** **falling on his face**. [**Warriors & Worshipers**]
1. Nehemiah's builders each had a **sword** in 1 hand & a **trowel** in the other.
 2. David learned how to wield the **sword** & the **harp**.
- E. Slide #18 Invite up team/dismiss ushers/Pray: **Lord, whom have we but you?** Only You can satisfy our thirsty souls...You are an endless spring. Your water is free, all other streams are dry.

V. Communion:

- A. **Bread** - We know we can't live on *bread* alone; we have spiritual needs as well as physical.
1. Please, *give us this day our daily bread*(our phys needs); but may we also hang on *every Word that proceeds from Your mouth* oh God.
- B. **Cup** - "Don't come with a **thimble** when God has nothing less to give you than *the ocean of Himself*." (B.Manning, The Relentless Tenderness of Jesus, pg.208)
1. Lord, may this cup **not be** the measurement of our **thanks**, nor the measurement of our **gratitude**, nor the measurement of **our desire of You**.

C. Warriors & Worshipers!