

*Courageous Leaders Don’t Give Up*

Courage to Lead – Part 3

II Samuel 3

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Q. As a leader, when have you ever been tempted to give up? Tempted to quit? Tempted to run from your call?

When you feel like giving up – \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Results of Perseverance in God’s Call:

1. God makes you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (Vs. 1)

II Sam 3:1 *Now there was a long war between the house of Saul and the house of David; and David grew steadily stronger, but the house of Saul grew weaker continually.* (NAU)

1. God \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (Vs. 2-5)

II Sam 3:2ff *Sons were born to David at Hebron: his firstborn was Amnon, by Ahinoam the Jezreelitess;* (NAU)

1. Your opposition \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (Vs. 6-11)

II Sam 3:6-8ff *It came about while there was war between the house of Saul and the house of David that Abner was making himself strong in the house of Saul. 7 Now Saul had a concubine whose name was Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah; and Ish-bosheth said to Abner, "Why have you gone in to my father's concubine?" 8 Then Abner was very angry over the words of Ish-bosheth and said, "Am I a dog's head that belongs to Judah? Today I show kindness to the house of Saul your father, to his brothers and to his friends, and have not delivered you into the hands of David; and yet today you charge me with a guilt concerning the woman…* (NAU)

1. You win over \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (Vs. 12-19)

II Sam 3:12-14ff *Then Abner sent messengers to David in his place, saying, "Whose is the land? Make your covenant with me, and behold, my hand shall be with you to bring all Israel over to you." 13 He said, "Good! I will make a covenant with you, but I demand one thing of you, namely, you shall not see my face unless you first bring Michal, Saul's daughter, when you come to see me." 14 So David sent messengers to Ish-bosheth, Saul's son, saying, "Give me my wife Michal, to whom I was betrothed for a hundred foreskins of the Philistines."* (NAU)

1. You maintain \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (Vs. 20-36)

II Sam 3:20-24 *Then Abner and twenty men with him came to David at Hebron. And David made a feast for Abner and the men who were with him. 21 Abner said to David, "Let me arise and go and gather all Israel to my lord the king, that they may make a covenant with you, and that you may be king over all that your soul desires." So David sent Abner away, and he went in peace. And behold, the servants of David and Joab came from a raid and brought much spoil with them; but Abner was not with David in Hebron, for he had sent him away, and he had gone in peace. 23 When Joab and all the army that was with him arrived, they told Joab, saying, "Abner the son of Ner came to the king, and he has sent him away, and he has gone in peace." 24 Then Joab came to the king and said, "What have you done? Behold, Abner came to you; why then have you sent him away and he is already gone?”* (NAU)

II Sam 3:31-32 *Then David said to Joab and to all the people who were with him, "Tear your clothes and gird on sackcloth and lament before Abner." And King David walked behind the bier. 32 Thus they buried Abner in Hebron; and the king lifted up his voice and wept at the grave of Abner, and all the people wept.* (NAU)

Point:

Romans 5:3-5 *And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; 4 and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; 5 and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.* (NAU)

Doggy Bag: Something to take home and chew on!

1. As a leader, when have you been tempted to give up? Tempted to quit? Tempted to run from your call?
2. When have you experienced conflict and perseverance make you stronger?
3. How have you experienced God’s blesses in the midst of difficulty or opposition?
4. When have you seen your perseverance in God’s call win over your opposition?
5. How has conflict caused you to give up your integrity?
6. What conflict are you facing now as a leader? What is God calling you to do? What are you trusting God to do?