

**Be Reformed** – Open the bible: study, dig and ask what the main point of the passage is

**Be Charismatic** – Expect the Holy Spirit: ask God to speak, minister, build up and lead us to maturity

**Be Community** – Love God's people: share vulnerably, apply, pray and build each other up

**Be Missional** – Win the world: apply lessons to outreach, make content accessible to non-Christians

## 2 Samuel 23:8-23

8 These are the names of the mighty men whom David had: Josheb-basshebeth a Tahchemonite; he was chief of the three. He wielded his spear against eight hundred whom he killed at one time.

9 And next to him among the three mighty men was Eleazar the son of Dodo, son of Ahohi. He was with David when they defied the Philistines who were gathered there for battle, and the men of Israel withdrew. 10 He rose and struck down the Philistines until his hand was weary, and his hand clung to the sword. And the LORD brought about a great victory that day, and the men returned after him only to strip the slain.

11 And next to him was Shammah, the son of Agee the Hararite. The Philistines gathered together at Lehi, where there was a plot of ground full of lentils, and the men fled from the Philistines. 12 But he took his stand in the midst of the plot and defended it and struck down the Philistines, and the LORD worked a great victory.

13 And three of the thirty chief men went down and came about harvest time to David at the cave of Adullam, when a band of Philistines was encamped in the Valley of Rephaim. 14 David was then in the stronghold, and the garrison of the Philistines was then at Bethlehem. 15 And David said longingly, "Oh, that someone would give me water to drink from the well of Bethlehem that is by the gate!" 16 Then the three mighty men broke through the camp of the Philistines and drew water out of the well of Bethlehem that was by the gate and carried and brought it to David. But he would not drink of it. He poured it out to the LORD 17 and said, "Far be it from me, O LORD, that I should do this. Shall I drink the blood of the men who went at the risk of their lives?" Therefore he would not drink it. These things the three mighty men did.

CONTINUED IN 2 SAMUEL 23:18-23

## Study Guide 14 August 2011 – A Call to Serve the King



### Summary

The bible records David's mighty men and their deeds so that all may know how great God is, and how these records point to Jesus.

David's mighty men were not born mighty. They were appointed by God and empowered by Him to accomplish the impossible. They all displayed three characteristics of true people of God. First, they were courageous. They took responsibility for what needed to be done because they knew what God wanted, not just in specific terms, but also in God's larger plan.

Second, they were loyal to the point where they would stand while others flee. This faithfulness to what is right inspires and enriches our fellow believers. Third, they desired to please their King. We also ought to find out what pleases our King, Jesus and go out and do what He desires. Devotion is owed to God alone.

There is only one path to glory with God. We become mighty under the shadow of Jesus, the Almighty, who has pleased God on our behalf. We come to Him in a cave, bowing down to make His victory ours.

### Key points

God's mighty men and women are courageous, loyal and desire to please Him.

### Questions

- >>What does God do to call His mighty men and women?
- >>How do these people respond to God's call?
- >>Why were David's mighty men considered courageous rather than foolish?
- >>How does Jesus' victory on our behalf make you feel?
- >>How does Jesus' victory on our behalf make you more courageous?
- >>How can we live and act as mighty people in our time and circumstance?

### Final thoughts

Because Jesus has won the victory, we are free to take risks, take a stand and devote ourselves to what pleases God, at the cost of all else.