

Mighty Men of GOD

by Jacob Cowden, 13 yrs old

When you hear the words, "Mighty Men", what do you think of? You might think of people like Arnold Schwarzenegger, Hulk Hogan, or maybe your dad. If you lived in the time that David was King over Israel 37 men would come to mind. These men were David's Mighty Men.

David's Mighty Men were warriors. Six of them were more acclaimed than the rest. These men were also divided into two groups of three. The first group was higher in rank than the second. In 1 Chron. 11:15-19, the Philistines were encamped around Bethlehem when David said, "Oh, that someone would give me a drink of water from the wall of Bethlehem which is by the gate!" Then the top three of David's Mighty Men broke through the Philistine line and got water from the well. But David would not drink it, "for at the risk of their life they brought it."

Wow, that is a great amount of courage. They were willing to risk their lives for their King. But that is not all they did. One man, named Benaiah, fought against a seven-and-one-half foot giant from Egypt. Benaiah was armed with only a staff, and the Egyptian had a spear the size of a weaver's beam. But Benaiah wrestled the spear out of the giant's hand and killed him (1 Chron. 11:23). Another man, Abishai the brother of Joab, killed 300 men with a spear (1 Chron. 11:20). Eleazar the son of Dodo, one of David's top three Mighty Men, stationed himself in the middle of a field and beat back the Philistines. He fought until, "his hand was weary and stuck to his sword," (2 Sam. 23:9-10). Josheb Basshebeth, the Chief of all David's Mighty Men, was called, "Adina the Eznite because he had killed 800 men at one time," (2 Sam. 23:8). That is amazing!

Wow, David had 37 men who would do what needed to be done, no matter what the cost. These men were the best of the best. You might think, "I wish I could be a Mighty Man." You can. Mighty Men are around us. All faithful preachers, teachers, elders, deacons, ministers, and missionaries are Mighty Men for God. You probably know people inside this category. You might not have thought of these men as Mighty Men, but they are.

How do you become a Mighty Man for God? First, when you are a kid you obey and learn from your parents as much as you can about God and His word. This will lay a good foundation for becoming a Mighty Man. Whenever you're older and become a Christian, you are not yet a Mighty Man. You need to keep learning from people who are older than you and from people who are Mighty Men already, and most importantly from the Bible. As you grow, keep on learning more and more about God, and if you have children train them up, "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." If you love Him, do your best to do His will, teach others about Him, and never stop learning, you could become a Mighty Man for God.

To become a Mighty Man you have to be willing to do everything God would have you to do no matter what. You have to be willing to do anything and give up anything for God. Just like Jesus did when he came to earth. You have to be reliable and trustworthy and willing to work for the cause of Christ. You also have to teach others about God and openly show by your actions you believe and trust in Him. You have to show that Christianity is not just a Sunday morning practice. It is life. To do all these things is hard, but it will be rewarded by a home in heaven, which is worth much more than anything you could have lost.

Thanks to Jacob for such a great article! Jacob is a 13 year old who lives with his parents and sister, Sarah, on the island of Saipan. They are missionaries on Saipan. Their parents are obviously doing something right!