THE STORY

A Few Good Men...And Women

Day One - One Generation

Today's reading: Pages 103 through break on page 105

This reading covers: Judges 2-3

Summary: Our faith truly is only one generation away from extinction.

Consider this:

A few sentences into this chapter, we read a startling revelation, "After that whole generation had been gathered to their ancestors, another generation grew up who knew neither the Lord nor what he had done for Israel." Could such a thing happen in your lifetime? What responsibility does God place on you as a parent, grandparent or simply as a Christ-follower to insure children grow up learning about God? Would you say you are a good role model? What types of Christ-focused activities take place in your family?

For further reading: Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Mark 10:13-16; 2 Timothy 1:3-7

Prayer:

Dear Father, thank you for the children you have placed in my care. By my teaching and by my example, help me foster in them a love for you that will last a lifetime. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

Day Two - Willing But Unqualified

Today's reading: Break on page 105 through break on page 112

This reading covers: Judges 4-8

Summary: God shows himself strong when we allow him to work through us.

Consider this:

Like so many of God's heroes, Gideon, a simple farmer from a "weak clan" hardly seemed qualified. Yet, God chose Gideon for an important purpose. Take a moment to think about God's purpose for your life. Can you identify with Gideon who asked for signs and proof before committing? Are there areas in your life where God is calling you to step out in faith?

For further reading: Proverbs 16:3; Isaiah 26:1-8; Mark 10:23-27; Hebrews 11

Prayer:

God, today and every day use me for your purpose. Through your Spirit, give me confidence to know that with your help I can accomplish your goals. In Jesus name, I pray, Amen.

Day Three - Strength Isn't Everything

Today's reading: Break on page 122 through end of chapter

This reading covers: Judges 13-16

Summary: Although Samson was gifted by God, his heart was not fully devoted to him.

Consider this:

What is your overall impression of Samson? Although physically strong, how was he weak? We are told his strength came "from the Spirit of the Lord." Yet it seems apparent God's Spirit was absent in his heart. What can we learn from seeing the results of Samson's sinful lifestyle? At the end, Samson was given his strength back resulting in the defeat of Israel's enemy. What did Samson do to receive God's help?

For further reading: Romans 8:1-12; Ephesians 6:10-18 **Prayer:**

Holy Spirit, with your help, I put on the whole armor of God. Come, live in my heart so I may stay strong and live a life that glorifies you. In Jesus' name, Amen.