

Out of the Trenches, Men

Introduction

Identify the Ideal Warrior

1. List some of the virtues of the ideal warrior in the comic strip series.
2. Look at the Special Forces' description of an ideal warrior.
"The Ideal Warrior"
They cited loyalty, patience, intensity, calmness, compassion, and will. They agreed that the true warrior knows himself and knows his limitations. Self-mastery according to the Special Forces men is a warrior's central motivation. He is always practicing, always seeking to hone his skills, so as to become the best possible instrument for accomplishing his mission. The warrior takes calculated risks and tests himself repeatedly. He believes in something greater than himself, a religion, a cause. He does not worship violence, but is at home with it. He may snivel (complain), but he is not a victim.

How does Jesus illustrate the qualities of an ideal warrior?

Contrasting Warriors: David and Uriah (2 Sam. 11:1ff)

What happened to the warrior spirit in men?

We're to be soldiers for Christ.

1. 2 Tim. 2:1-5; 1 Tim. 1:18; Eph. 6:10
2. The church is to be united with the cause of Christ: The glory of God.

In spiritual warfare, the casualties are in the trenches. There are no casualties on the battlefield.

Two of the most dreaded enemies of a man should be ...

1. _____
2. _____

Application and Discussion Questions

1. What ideas can you come up with that will display loyalty to someone or some cause greater than yourself as a husband, father, or son?
2. What skills are you working to hone to make you a better husband and father or son?

3. When have you taken a calculated risk and tested yourself and your leadership? Ask the Lord to bring to mind where He wants you to test His faithfulness in the area of which we've spoken.
4. What can men do to help the "shakers" in their church or family?
5. Are the men in your church united in mission or independent of each other? What suggestions can you think of that would help overcome the independent spirit in yourself and other men?