

MEN'S LIFE BLOOMINGTON & GOD @ WORK

Tuesday, February 14, 2017

Bold Moves

I Samuel 17:38-40 & 17:32-37

Definition: Life is filled with opportunities for bold moves. Times where a fresh thought, a pioneering new program or a significant risk is called for. God may ask you to make a bold move in your job, with your family or in your faith. But when we're doing what God wants us to do is it really that bold — or is it simply another word for "trust."

Segment Questions:

- Our move to Florida was a turning point my life and the life of my family. Would you share a time when you had a "bold move" you know God was involved in? How did it turn out?
- I mentioned "dumb moves." Can any of you relate? Willing to share? What is said here, stays here. When I reflect on those times, I know I have probably not thanked God often enough for taking care of me. You have times you know God stepped in on your "dumb moves?"
- Do you think bold moves are made based on experience, trust in God, advice of others, leading of the Holy Spirit. Which of these is most important in making a bold move?

Action Questions:

- Has anything been said today that will make you reconsider how you make important decisions? What was said and why will you use it?
- David was willing to give up good help from Saul and place his trust in the Lord. What would that look like in your next major decision or bold move?
- Are there things we talked about today that need to be shared with others? Family members, work associates? What needs to be shared in your world and are you willing to do so?

Back in 2006 I had a good job Florida, our family was doing well and life was good. Why would we want to move to Toronto Canada? Looking back, God had been preparing me for what was to happen. We prayed, we fasted, we sought wise counsel, we asked God to put up road blocks if we were not to move to Canada and work in a church plant and with Athletes in Actions. We got push back from family (I think our college aged daughters thought we were nuts, my father-in-law thought I was having a mid-life crisis) and friends. But in the end, we got overwhelming confirmation from God. As I reflect on what we did, on the surface it looks like a bold move. As our definition states it **involved risk** and a **new thought**.

At Willow Creek church, they describe bold moves as *“a courageous, high-risk plans that God just might use in a major way.”* I think we get the picture of what this looks like. But the more I think about it, is it really that “bold” when we have God’s guidance and direction. Isn’t it more of a “bold move” when we make a “move” without being led by the Lord? To venture off on our own is when we’re really bold.

I think some of my boldest moves were some of my dumbest. How smart is to do things under the influence of alcohol or pot? How smart is it to something because of a dare, or in trying to impress someone? (Usually a female back in our single days)

Today, I work with coaches and athletes and sometime in the heat of completion it looks like they make “bold moves”, but are they? I imagine the coach or athlete as played this out before in his mind. The coach or athlete is moving on a previous experience or decision. I also know instinct and “gut re-action” can be involved. I believe this scenario can also be applied to the business world.

ONE OF DAVID’S BOLD MOVES — I Samuel 17:38-40 & 32-37

Then Saul dressed David in his own tunic. He put a coat of armor on him and a bronze helmet on his head. David fastened on his sword over the tunic and tried walking around, because he was not used to them. “I cannot go in these,” he said to Saul, “because I am not used to them.” So he took them off. Then he took his staff in his hand, chose five smooth STONES from the stream, put them in the pouch of his shepherd’s bag and, with his sling in his hand, approached the Philistine.

Saul equipped David with the best he had, was it a “bold move” to take them off? Why did David spurn Saul’s armor?

“Don’t worry about this Philistine,” David told Saul. “I’ll go fight him!” “Don’t be ridiculous!” Saul replied. “There’s no way you can fight this Philistine and possibly win! You’re only a boy, and he’s been a man of war since his youth.” But David persisted. “I have been taking care of my father’s sheep and goats,” he said. “When a lion or a bear comes to steal a lamb from the flock, I go after it with a club and rescue the lamb from its mouth. If the animal turns on me, I catch it by the jaw and club it to death. I have done this to both lions and bears, and I’ll do it to this pagan Philistine, too, for he has defied the armies of the living God! The Lord who rescued me from the claws of the lion and the bear will rescue me from this Philistine!”

Bold moves, or trust in God? How can we make bad moves when He is guiding us and directing our lives?