



In 1 Chronicles 12:18 & 17, there were men who came to David while he was banished from the presence of Saul. They were warriors who wanted to help in battle.

David went out to meet them and said, "If you've come to help me, my heart is knit to you. If you have come to betray me, the God of my Father will judge you." (v. 17)

These men were armed with bows and arrows and could sling stones with either hand. They were talented but hadn't come together yet.

You will be praised for your gifts but respected for your loyalty.

Loyal – giving or showing constant support or allegiance to a person or institution.

You are not loyal until you have had an opportunity to be disloyal. Those who only love you when they need you will stop loving you the moment you say, "No."

David Asked Three Major Questions

1. Have you come peacefully?

It means, "Do you come to strengthen and mend relationships? If you've come to cause division we don't want you!"

Those who will not enter your life to increase you will enter your life to use you.

It would be better to lose someone because of a standard, than keep them because of a lack of one.

2. Have you come to help?

This focuses on a single vision. Do you have a hidden agenda or private world? No team member will go on a tangent, work something on his own or impose a private vision that will cause turbulence or tension.

Those who never add anything to your life will eventually take something away.

No one can increase you until they can see something you can't.

3. Have you come to betray me?

If so, then God will take care of you. The word "betray" means to hide a dagger in the fold of your cloak. It can mean a hidden motive. Some people secretly bring their own agenda. David was saying, "Come in, open your coat and lay everything on the table. Let there be no hidden agenda here."

Someone who doesn't put everything on the table has something to hide underneath it. Beware of climbers (people with agendas) who want the benefits of knowing you without the commitment of guarding you.

Then David said, "My heart is knitted to you." My resources, influence, ability and everything God gives me, I will place at your disposal. I am committed to helping you if you come peacefully and with singleness of vision. I am your covenant brother.

They became a Band of Brothers. They became David's Mighty Men!

One of these guys killed a lion in a pit on a snowy day. Another killed 600 Philistines. They are not intimidated by anybody!

The challenge of every team is to build a feeling of one... dependent on one another. The question is usually not how well each person performs, but how well they work together.

Ecclesiastes 4:12 "Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken."

The strength of the pack is the wolf and the strength of the wolf is the pack.