

## The Warrior Chronicles #5: "Skills, Rank and Purpose"

1 Chronicles 12:33

1 Chronicles 12 gives a list of mighty men/warriors who helped David become King. Going to look at various men/tribes/attributes  
1 Chronicles 12:33 Of Zebulun, such as went forth to battle, expert in war, with all instruments of war, fifty thousand, which could keep rank: they were not of double heart.

### I. DEVELOPING YOUR SKILLS

A. The basis of ministry is heart and character:

1. Who you are is more important than what you can do
  - a. Talented men without character wind up hurting other people
  - b. Talented men without character don't last over time
    1. *Judas handled money/perhaps more educated: Didn't make it* 2. *I know so many talented men not in ministry today*

2. Lists of qualifications in Timothy/Titus: *The majority are character issues*

3. Also the Bible speaks of a supernatural dimension: *Dominion and anointing and the miraculous*

B. But this text shows us that skills are a vital part of ministry! **V33** *expert in war, with all instruments of war*

1. You can't do the will of God on heart/character alone

- a. When we lack skills – we make our job harder: *Men who can't connect/men who can't preach*
- b. When we lack skills – we harm our credibility over time

2. You gain skills by practicing: **V33** *expert in war...*

3. You must determine to develop in areas you're not good at: **V33** *with all instruments of war*

C. 3 areas of skills

1. People skills: Knowing how to connect/sensing where people are at/handling conflict wisely

2. Preaching skills: Learning how to communicate with something to say – and saying it well!

3. Money skills: Budgeting/keeping track/planning – breaking through and having dominion in money

### II. KEEPING RANK

A. We tend to be self-centered and selfish: *Children's school reports – doesn't play well with others*

1. So when we sense God's call – we often make it about us

- a. We make decisions only thinking of our benefit b. We compete/act in envy

*1. I won't help your outreach – but I want you to help mine* 2. *We speak against others/cause turmoil*

b. *Philippians 2:21 For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus.*

2. So men leave a trail of offense – or people avoid them/refuse to work with them

a. *Me: Offended the caretaker Drum stool war: What will other people think?*

B. These men could work well with others: **V33** *which could keep rank:*

1. Literally talking about being able to march together

*a. Man in Army: Learned to march on gravel. If hear one crunch, you're marching together. If we hear a lot of crunches, you're out of step*

2. What you do affects other people! And affects their opinion of you/willingness to work with you

a. *Whether you help/speak well of/serve or sacrifice for others*

3. Keeping rank enables God's will to be done – and it brings you into your destiny

### III. BEING SINGLE HEARTED

A. Our problem is often not choosing between crime and God's will

1. It is choosing between things that are good – and things that are the best

a. *Vance Havner: It's possible that the good can become the enemy of the best*

2. Many men hear from God/know what God wants – but they waver

a. *James 1:8 A double minded man is unstable in all his ways. Like a drunk reeling back and forth*

3. Double-minded men hesitate to make good choices

a. They suffer option lock: *Stuck in place b/c there are multiple options*

4. Double-minded men start and stop over and over: *Therefore they never make progress*

B. Our text tells us these men were single-minded: **V33** *they were not of double heart.*

1. You have to decide what God wants – and what is most important to you

a. Then deliberately eliminate other options: *Elisha burned oxen yokes* *disciples left jobs/career/family*

2. When there are not other options – it makes it easier to focus

a. *Philippians 3:13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,*