

*Recap of 5/10/26 message by Chris Sommerfield*  
*("Making Mighty Men") 2 Samuel 23:1-39*

- This passage summarizes some of the exploits of David's mighty men, showcasing their bravery, loyalty, and unique contributions to David's reign. True greatness is measured by our faithfulness and courage in serving God and others. Considering the qualities of David's mighty men can help us as we follow Christ's example. The opening poem tells us with David's "last words" of God's sovereignty in bringing David from a commoner and anointing him to be king of Israel. We also see that the ideal king rules righteously in the fear of God. When this happens, the king is blessed and the people are blessed. David recognizes that God is working through him and his family line to bring blessing to the world.
- The narrative then shifts to David's mighty men and their loyalty to their king. We learn a lot from reading their stories. We see that while many of the men were from the lands of Judah, it was still a varied group of men, some of whom were foreigners. Even David in this chapter remembers he began as the son of a commoner from Bethlehem, a seemingly unimportant town. We must not look at our background and disqualify ourselves from serving God because we feel like we aren't influential enough, or well-spoken enough, or we didn't come from the perfect family life. God uses all different kinds of people and transforms them, equipping them for His glory and His purposes.
- We also see bravery, courage, devotion, loyalty, steadfast trust in the LORD and a willingness to sacrifice. The top three of David's mighty men traveled over 12 miles through enemy territory to get water from a well in Philistine occupied Bethlehem, then traveled back through enemy territory to present it to their king so that he may quench his thirst, and in that moment David pours it out as a drink offering to the LORD. He does this because he saw how much his men risked and the water became so valuable due to the peril of obtaining it that he felt unworthy to drink it instead choosing to sacrifice it to the LORD. This was David's very best in this moment, something he greatly desired, and he gave it to the LORD. If we are to be mighty for the LORD, we must be people who exhibit bravery, courage, devotion, loyalty, and steadfast trust in the LORD. We must be people who are ready to give our very best to the LORD.