

**Recap of 6/21/26 message by Chris Sommerfield
(“A Father’s Last Instructions”) 1 Kings 2:1-12**

- King David gives final instructions to his son Solomon before his death, emphasizing the importance of following God's ways and the responsibilities of leadership. We all want to be able to leave a legacy for those who follow us guiding and instructing them well. Leadership is not just about authority but about responsibility and faithfulness to God's commands. Faithful leadership involves passing down God's truth and preparing future leaders to serve Him diligently and with integrity.

- David begins his instructions with a call to courage and obedience, emphasizing that true leadership starts with following God's commandments. David calls for Solomon to be a man, but when we hear that phrase, we sometimes misunderstand what is being said. Biblical manhood isn't about showing off your muscles, how much hair you have on your chest, suppressing emotion so as not to cry, or always being right. Biblical manhood begins with a man's relationship with God, which shapes every other responsibility he carries. The core of biblical manhood is responsibility. Men bear responsibility to protect their families, physically and spiritually. Men are expected to lead their marriages, their families, and the church modeled after Christ's example exercised through love, service, and sacrifice. Solomon, and we, are to do this by “keeping the charge of the LORD,” by doing what He requires, by walking in His ways and obeying His commandments.

- David then moves to Solomon's relationship with others and the necessity for judicious justice and mercy. Solomon was going to be challenged, and he needed to be ready to use wisdom in handling people exercising justice and mercy appropriately. What type of legacy are we leaving? Are we modeling Christlike leadership in our lives as people willing to serve the LORD with a whole heart?