MEN'S FRATERNITY

Knights of the 21st Century

Trail 23

KEITH: We find ourselves here at Trail 23, the end of just about the year together. In fact, the end of for some of us, five years together. And we find ourselves at this point saying, what am I going to be as a man? So take your knighthood plans that you're working on right now and I think this particular trail is going to help you probably better than anything else we've done to say these are the couple of areas I need to work on. Because what we're going to focus on, on this particular trail is a spandex male, the male you don't want to be. Actually we're really not going to spend as much time thinking about spandex males as much as we're thinking if you're going to be a knight, there are certain things a man can't do. He simply can't do it. It would be like if you have the opportunity to have this bomb that you were carrying around – that's what spandex males are. They kind of do life with a bomb over their heads. They're free. They can about. This is like your whole world. You can kind of move around anywhere you want, right. You have the freedom within the context of where you are and they have these bombs on top of them never knowing when it's going to go off and never knowing when it's going to destroy the world in which they find. It's going to be random. It's going to go all over the place. That's not a man. That's a boy. That's a spandex male. This is guy you don't want to be. Well how do you

become the man you need to be? Well you actually need to focus on who you are. So as you write your knighthood plan, start eliminating some of the things you want to get rid of and work on this.

Here's the focus area that we're going to have today. This is zone. This is the place where you and I are going to say, I want to focus so I don't have this generic bomb power, but I'm rather going to focus so I have this amazing strength and power to change the world in which I find myself in. You know Jesus, right. Jesus never carried around a bomb. He was never spandex, right. Jesus Christ knew what he couldn't do as a man, what he would give up. What he did is he chose to come in this area. This area represents this zone that you're sort of voluntarily trapped within. It's like if you can imagine a launching pad that causes you just to have all the thrusters go this way so you can take off that way as opposed to a man with a bomb who he's just walking around and when it explodes, it just goes everywhere and no impact in a positive way, just destruction, right.

Christ came to rescue the world. In order to come and rescue the world, here's what he chose to do. He chose to change his freedom. Instead of being able to go anywhere, he would limit his freedom. You know before he was born, he never had a body. Bodies limit us. He never had to breathe air or eat or go to the bathroom or do any of the things that you and I have to do. He limited his freedom to say I will become a savior of the world. He was God and yet he would not be in

every place all the time. He limited his freedom. The God of the universe was willing to limit who he was. He limited actually his power. But God who could do anything now suddenly would be restricted in what he could do within the confines of creation. Jesus Christ said you are so valuable, I am willing to sacrifice my freedom for you. That is the difference between a boy and a man. If you're going to be a man, there's certain things that you can't do. You'll have to let them go and become. Like the day I married Lynn, I let everyone else go as a possibility and I limited my freedom.

We're going to talk about 30 things that will limit who and what we are and if you don't deal with these things, you'll become the guy over here that you don't want to be, the guy that's going to go around and do destructive things, like in your Knightly News. There's a guy by the name of Manasseh. He's a king, a bad king, super bad king. In Jerusalem, it actually says of him that the streets just ran with blood of innocent people, his own people he killed. He was so bad that he was the bad of the bad, do you know what I mean? He was the bomb, right, never knowing. You met guys like that. You never know when they're going to explode and do damage. Listen to what is said about Manasseh in your Knightly News. His inability to say no to some things led him to say yes to evil things. He was a destroyer rather than a defender. Wow. Manasseh spent more time destroying what was good than ever defending. What we need to know, what we need to understand is if you

live out here, you're not really living in freedom. You really aren't but if you're willing to come in here, you're going to come into focused power. All your energy is sort of now contained within this zone and you will make choices that will protect everyone behind you and maximize your power as an individual, as Christ did when he came.

So while we're going to ask you to look at some spandex male things, I want you to look at it from these are things that I can't do. Now some of those you'll be able to circle and say I – this is one I limited in my freedom. I will have more power in this area. So you are doing that one. Some of them, however, you'll say, man, I'm still struggling with letting go of this and so we come out of this safety zone. Got it? We're going to walk through that. The guys are going to share different ones. I want you to circle the ones that you can give up and the ones you can't or if you can't completely circle it, then you can sort of step out and realize there's some danger I got to work on and harness that a little bit.

Look at I. Males do not want to do what it takes to fulfill the messages from their inner voice which direct them towards manhood. Males, spandex males don't want to do these things, right. The spandex male is angry because he knows that in order to become a man, he's going to have to be willing to give up a few things and he just says, I can't. Your choice is whether you're going to do that or not.

T.C.: Alright, so the spandex male is angry because he knows that in order to become a man, A, he can't initiate a sexual relationship

with every person who he finds attractive. You know what, this isn't just if you're a married person, because obviously you know that would hurt your mate. But even if you're a single guy, you know you can't just have sex with every woman you come across. You know, there has to a relationship building and we know God designed sex between a married man and a woman and so fortunately for me, I'm happy to say that I can step on the zone on this one and I'm really, really glad that I can because early in my life there was a chance, there was a time where I really did struggle with this and I'm sensitive to this issue because I know that a lot of guys do struggle with lustful situations. I know a lot of guys struggle with how to handle their attraction to women and that can get a lot of guys in trouble. I'm just going to tell you right now, for me, man, I'm just glad that that's something I don't struggle with because it's a marriage killer. It's a relationship killer. You want a – a female just wants to get to know more about you. Remember we talked earlier in trails, there's just more to a relationship than the sexual attraction, so to be able to attain that, it's a great benefit.

Here's the next point. He can't eat whatever he wants and still maintain a manly body. Again, this is where I sit, right here. I'm in the zone when it comes to this. And I want to say, guys, it's not just about how you physically appear, you know, we're talking about a body that functions well as well. We got to take care of the inside. You know I think about an automobile, a car, a Ferrari looks great but if you don't

take care of that oil and you don't take care of putting good gas in it, it won't run so the inside has to look good as well. So what you eat also affects the inside, the heart, you know, and you want to be able to function and be in shape, be able to play with your kids, you know, be able to live a long and healthy life. So it's not just the appearance. It's also how well that body functions, so I'm glad I sit here on that one.

Here's the next one. He can't expect to be taken care of for he must be responsible for making his own way in the forest, in his life. I sit here as well and I owe this to my wife. Early, early, early in my marriage, you know I was unwilling, I was on the other side of this. I was the guy that just wanted to do the easy things in life to try and make money. I didn't like really hard and tough jobs but those hard and tough jobs were the only ones available at some point and I – she challenged me to take care of her and the family and I rose to that challenge and ever since then this is where I sit. You know, we are not to have people take care of us. We can't be – we can't even use the word man if we can't take care of ourselves and take care of our families or not even willing to learn how to do that. That's very important, glad I sit here. Now, hey, don't be embarrassed if you don't sit here. You just got to figure out what gets you in the zone if you can't circle that one and be willing to work on it.

Alright, let's go to the next one. D. He can't expect others to know what he needs from them without also learning how to clearly express himself. You hear that term, you know, hey look, I don't minds, you know.

I say that to my wife. My wife says that to me. I don't read minds. I'm not a mind reader and I sit here in the zone because I express myself pretty well. If you're a guy that feels like man, I can't circle that one, that's something that you might want to figure out because people can't adequately accommodate you if they don't really, really know what you're thinking, how you feel, what your needs are. So that's something I'd address right away. I address that because, hey look, I know what I want, I know what I need, I know what helps me to do better and I need to be able to communicate that to other people so that my needs can be met and I can properly meet theirs. So that's very important. I'm glad I sit here on that one.

Here's the next one. He can't have it all. He has to choose between the available options and let go of some of the opportunities that are available to him. Now this one, I got to stroll out of the safe zone here and I got to come over here to where I'm a little bit more spandexy in this area. I'm getting a lot better with this but you do, there's a lot of good things that you can go after, but you can't do them all. I've heard a saying and I'm going to stand by it because it works well. You can do a lot of things in a mediocre way or you can do just one or two things very, very well. And I had to learn that and I'm still learning that because there's a lot of talents that I have and you try to do them all but you just, you're just winging it being mediocre as opposed to leaning in on just a

few keys things and doing great with those. So make sure that's not you. I'm out here on that one.

And then finally, it's F. He can't live as long as he would like and has minimal control over the ability to extend his life. Here's where I sit on this one. I realize that. I think eternally, which means that I know that God controls the longevity of my life. But I also know that there's some things that I can do to shorten my life. While I can't do anything personally to extend it, there's plenty of things I can do to shorten it. You know, not taking care of my body, you know, smoking, drinking to much, all those different things, man, it tears up the inside and that can shorten your life, man, making you check out long before you should. So this is where I sit. Hopefully you're being honest about where you sit and Clair's going to take it the rest of the way.

CLAIR: Great T.C. I was thinking about the Bible verse that says that our days are numbered before we were born and I take some liberties in that area and I was teaching a seminar and a guy in the back of the room said, hey, there's a good chance Clair when you get to Heaven, Jesus is going to look at you and say, hey, we're glad you're hear but we weren't expecting you just yet. So great points, T.C.

Let's move on to the next one. G. He can't express his anger in ways that are out of control and not have it affect his relationships. I'm going to move into the zone on this one. I think five years ago I would have been somewhere in between, but actually getting better in that area.

What I think about first is what the Bible tells us, that it's okay to get angry. That's a human emotion. It's expected. If you're living life and you're interacting with people, there's going to be anger but it says don't step over the line. Don't sin in your anger. For me, very simply, I've learned to slow down. I got a letter last night in the mail, business, that I do business with. We've had some disagreements and they're threatening to sue me. We'll work it out. It's not going to go to court. However, I would tell you five years ago I would have made a phone call, a very emotional phone call and I would have been – made some mistakes in that phone call. I sat there last night and I said, you know what, I've got a couple days here. Let's settle down. Let's think through this and not make those regrets. So that anger, I'm getting a little bit better in. I get to be in the zone on that one.

Let's move on to H. He can't control what others do and must learn to respect and love them despite their imperfections. I have to tell you I've got to go out of the zone on this one. Control is an interesting thing and when I think about other people – first of all the word imperfections is really interesting. I think for me it's almost differences. I assume someone whose different. If I assume I'm right and I'm the perfect person, then any differences I see in them I view as imperfections. That's not always the case. However, I will tell you when it comes to me and my wife, for instance, our differences or what I might view as imperfections in her, those are actually things that if I don't honor her and not try to

change her, I lose the value of that. So I'm an impatient person. She's patient. If I try to control her all the time, I'm going to turn her into an impatient person and lose the value of her actually being able to rub off on me. And a great attribute that she has, that would be crushing, so value others, don't try to control them.

I. He can't always be the one who decides how the time with the significant others in his life is spent. I got to tell you, I got to stay outside the zone again. I'm working on this one and I've got some people who care enough about me to tell me. Here's what it comes down to me for me. Very simply, I am very intentional about the way I spend my time. I try to juggle a lot of things. I try to get the most out of life. So I think through it a lot and that makes me assume I'm right. That's not always the case. When it comes to my loved ones, my wife in particular and my sons, I've got to be real careful that I can't always be the one that's determining what family time looks like. Learning to listen to my wife in this area. She's an amazing sounding board, keeps pulling me back toward the family when I want to get out and explore the world and interact with other people. Sorry to say, I'm still outside the zone on that one.

Let's go onto the next point, J. He can't always be perfect. Therefore, he must apologize regularly, be humble, ask for forgiveness and make amends. This is an area I work hard on in my life. I'm going to go back into the zone on this one. With this particular point, very simply,

I hope it's not a wake up call for any of you that you're not perfect. I know that's hard to hear. I'm not, and unfortunately you're not either. We are what we call humans and humans have mistakes built into them. We're a work in progress. Here's what I look for. I have a number of employees and I got to tell you if I have an employee who never comes to me and says, I screwed up, I'm sorry, I get real nervous about that employee because you know what, I know they're screwing up. They're not perfect the same way I do. I get real comfortable with someone who readily acknowledges or if I have to confront them says, you know you're right, I did screw up. What can I do to fix it? What I watch for is not the fact that they are screwing up. I'm assuming that. I watch what they do when they screw up. So we have those conversations all the time. I care more about how you respond to a mistake than whether or not you think you're making mistakes. Try living out my own life, saying I'm sorry is something my friends will hear quite often, maybe too often. I don't find it hard. I find it necessary if I'm going to remain in a relationship with them.

Let's go on to K. H can't grow without facing disappointment, delaying gratification, experiencing setbacks and completing tasks that are less than pleasant. This one I get to stay in the zone as well. I love self-development. I'm willing to accept short-term pain through a long-term gain and I just got done with a conversation with my sons. We have a business that we're kind of dabbling in together. They're very young yet, but my youngest son had a goal of being in business before he left

high school so I'm kind of partnering with them. And we had a setback in one of those businesses and I went to my sons and I was curious to see how they'd handle it. They were upset, disappointed. It cost them some profit they were counting on. The cool thing was, I was able to give them what I believe is a life lesson we had to follow and that, guys, if you're not losing some, you're not trying hard enough. So we push hard. We will experience setbacks now and then but if we're not experiencing setbacks, my belief is we're not pushing hard enough to make it happen.

Let's go onto the next one. He can't achieve financial goals without working hard, going to school, developing new skills and saying no to things he would like to purchase. First of all let's start off with the first two words there, financial goals. If you don't have financial goals, the rest of this isn't going to make sense. When you set those goals, set them higher than you think you can achieve. Any worthwhile goal has to have some risk built into it. If it looks easy to you, the bar is probably not high enough. When you set those goals I suspect with the culture we've been born into depending where you're watching these videos from, something like an education or developing new skills is going to be important to help you meet those financial goals. And then there's that delay gratification, big tough one, especially where most of us live, in the United States. Credit cards as so available to us and delayed gratification is something we don't understand. Say no now so that you can say yes later.

ROBERT: Yeah, actually I had to develop myself to get into the zone because I wasn't always that way. That was great. Thank you very much.

Hey guys, let's go ahead and let's look at this next one. M. As far as the spandex male is concerned, he can't expect relationships to always be pleasant. You know, the spandex male is always looking for confrontation. We talked about it in the earlier trail where, you know, he's – he never looks at the problem. Instead he's ready to fight all the time. The spandex male always tries to tempt us, to take us in that direction. Our relationships don't have to be that way. They can be pleasant if we simply don't follow our spandex male.

Let's look at the next one. N. He can't watch as much TV as he wants. This is a spandex male or participate in his hobbies, take it easy or hang out with his friends as often as he would like. Well if I'm going to be honest, I've lived the majority of my life right here, outside of the zone. You see, I'm from the technical revolution age. Right, I'm a child product of video games. It's what I've done since Pac Man Atari 2600, and throughout my entire life. And you know what? Pretty much I've lived just like the spandex male and I used to just spend all my time wanting to do my hobbies, play my games, do my own thing. But I had to learn to change and I wanted to make this point here. Just because you've lived maybe the majority of your life out here does not mean you can't develop

yourself into something else. I'm proud to say that this is where I'm at now today.

Let's look at our next point. O. The spandex male, he can't repeatedly do things in the exact same way as this will limit his ability to adjust to what the forest throws at him. Simply put, the spandex male is not adaptable. Life is not predictable. There's always going to be curves and there's always going to be things coming out of all different directions. The spandex male won't let you adapt but when a man becomes mature and grows into manhood, it's amazing how easily he can adapt to the situation.

Next point. P. He can't hear what people are saying or the level of emotional meaning behind their words without taking the time and energy to listen to them. You know, I don't want to sound like a broken record, but we've talked about this many times. Guys, as knights, as men, we really have to learn to listen. I had to grow into this position. I wasn't always here but after I got married and I started to realize that my wife was simply just wanting to be heard, I needed to open my ears, be quiet and listen. Let me tell you, that's changed our relationship dramatically.

Next point. Q. He can't teach others how to live without also modeling it himself. The most important part about becoming a man is to be able to model your life in such a way where those coming behind you can follow. As a Christian, as a follower of Christ, that's one of the most important things in the entire planet. We have to learn to be able to live

like Christ and show others to be able to do the same so that they can then say, you know what? When I see Robert Amaya, I see a man – the kind of man I want to be. But if I listen to my spandex male, well you know, we'll teach our younger generations to be something they shouldn't be.

Next point, R. He can't change the gifts that he has been given as a result of his genetics. He can develop his gifts but he must also learn to live within their limitations. I can tell you as an actor, I have to live in the zone. I can't, I can't go into listening to spandex male. I got to be fully aware of what my gifts are. You know, that's part of our résumé. We write down what we're good at, what we're not, how we look, you know, all these things. If there's a role that's looking for a star, you know, football receiver or football running back, I'm probably not the guy they're going to call and I should be okay with that. I should know that's my limitation. I shouldn't go audition for that. But you know what, it doesn't mean that we can't develop into it, however. That's key right there. The spandex male doesn't want you to be able to look at life that way but you can develop yourself. So you see, guys, we got to be aware of our limitations. That's what a real man does but also aware that we can develop ourselves and still be able to live in the zone.

ROY: I love it. I love it. I love it. Supportive relationships. You know, do we wander around, do I wander around out here aimlessly as a male or do I give up my freedom and move over here where I can

become more focused? Throughout my life this has always been a big contradiction. It seems so free out here and yet truth is, when I live like that, I'm really, really, really aimless.

Let's look at the next one. He can't develop deep, supportive friendships without first learning to be a true friend himself. For most of my life I lived out here. I continued to worry about what other people thought of me. I thought about being isolated is good and part of the knight's journey for me has caused me to be able to move towards other people and to recognize the importance of the relationships around me. And at first I felt insecure but over a period of time, I really started to appreciate the comfort of having the relational focus of always having someone around me, to encourage me. One of the ways they encourage me is the next one.

He can't follow his mind's king and become noble without learning to do the right thing. I really want to do the right thing and for most of the time it's apparent to me and so being here is a natural place that I've grown to appreciate. I read the Word of God in order to understand what I need to give up in order to be able to live this way. But even, no matter how hard I try, there's some times I don't hear God's messages clear and I start to sneak out and at that moment my friends around me give me feedback and put their hands on my shoulder and slowly pull me back in. It is so much better here for me.

Defender

Let's look at the next one. He can't simply follow along with what others are doing. He has to learn to think on his own. Knights, the whole concept of Knights is dedicated to help males become men and males to learn that part of that journey is to become like the ultimate man, Jesus Christ. Knights does not look like your typical church program. Part of the strength of Knights is that I've been able to live here and say, you know, we're going to do things a little differently than some of the traditional ways so that we can reach out to individuals who need to see the church move towards them. To do that, we had to think differently.

Let's look at the next one. He can't develop trusting relationships with most people without learning to deal with 20% of who may have a negative mindset about him. Look at ten people out there. Some of them are going to support you. Others aren't. I learned this many years ago when I was first a therapist. I remember my first client and I was really going to help this person. And I worked at a hospital where I was treating this person and every day I would struggle with how can I help this woman deal with the loss of her husband in a car crash. So through, beginning of the shift I'd meet with the person and we'd have a conversation and I would cry with her and try to help her deal with this most devastating loss. Back then you could be in the hospital for a long period of time, and so I treated her for six to eight weeks almost on a daily basis. And then one day someone came – when I came to work, someone said, Roy, wait until you hear the news and I was told by my

peer that this woman's husband never died in a car crash. Somebody was going to die in a car crash. Somebody was going to die. I was mad. I cried with this woman and after six weeks, I realized her agenda wasn't an honest agenda and some of us have had friends for years and we've been devastated by the fact that that person hasn't been there for us.

I remember my second client and the man came in and sat down and shared with me that his twelve year old son died of cancer and immediately in my head, I went, yeah right. I'm onto you clients now. I know you're not going to always tell me the truth and I could feel myself start to build walls up between me and this man that needed my help. That night I was talking to God about it and we had this kind of discussion. It seemed to me that God was saying, you have a choice. You can treat all people as if they're going to harm you, build up that armor and walls and stay away from them. And if you do that, two people out of ten won't hurt you, but Roy, you can't help the other eight. Or you can choose to strengthen your core and you can move towards those individuals and treat everybody as if they're an eight and know when they happen to have one of those negative agendas. You are strong enough to deal with the pain of that. It's a crossroads. Choose to trust and handle hurt, choose not to trust, never be hurt. I'm here to tell you, I have grown so much more enjoying the eight people in my life than the harm the two have caused me. God tells us we need to reach out to others and love them like they're an eight.

Defender

Let's look at the next one. We can't understand the true depth of his manhood and live as a knight without being aware of the various elements that make up his core and learning to understand the two protective systems that are part of him as well. We spent all these years together studying different parts of a man's core. The Psalmist says in Psalm 139:14 that you and I are fearfully and wonderfully made. The culture, when we turn on a commercial says to us, you're simplistic, sexual, aggressive. God's definition of who we are is different from what the culture says every day of our life. We need to understand and have confidence of the different elements within us so that we can build a structure around us that helps us become what God has called us to be.

Let's look at the next one. He can't have full confidence in any of his motivations without carefully evaluating whether his spandex male is active or his shadow is functioning behind the scenes. It is so counterintuitive. To seem to be in control is to not be. To seem to have faith and let go gives me the strength to be what God has called me to be.

KEITH: As some of the guys were going over their ones, I hope you're circling them. I hope you're taking a look at them and saying, which one is mine? I got to tell you there are a couple times when I would have had to come out of the room and stood here as a spandex guy, but on that one, what Roy was just talking about, I have to tell you that nine – ten years ago, my spandex male was far more in control than it is now. Pretty solidly in here. I've given up that freedom. I have absolute

confidence that God has worked in me, that you know what, it's okay not to be that guy that just says, I'm out there doing whatever I want to please me and I'm functioning a lot differently now.

Let's look at Y together because this is going to change a little bit. He can't demonstrate the self-discipline of a knight without learning to say no to some of his impulses. Remember – you know my addiction to pornography, right. Well that's gone. You know, so I don't really have most bad habits and so I'm going, yeah, I'm doing pretty good but there are some things where it comes to like when I'm sad or when I'm tired, well I'll just east sometimes without really thinking and so I'm sort of starting to pull out of here, sort of heading this way. Now I'm really actually not leaving here. To be honest with you, I'll circle it and say it's okay, but man, it's one of those areas where it's really iffy for me. It's not going to make my knighthood plan. There are other areas but it's pretty important because I sometimes lose some of that power when I'm tired and vulnerable and all that kind of stuff in those areas. Pretty self-disciplined but far more than I used to be.

Look at Z. He can't do his best without first developing a plan that prioritizes his actions. Guys, man, I'll tell you I sit completely in here. I have plans all over the place that keep me focused so that I don't get distracted. I get distracted pretty easily and those plans say okay, I know what I want to do. I know what I want to accomplish, but guess where I

get my orders from? I come in here and I say, God, show me what you want. Show me what you want me to do.

I had a very good friend who was a great planner, tremendous planner but never asked God. And actually it's interesting, he would live out here sometimes. Here's this great planning guy and yet he like this. And you would think, well he's very focused. You know what the problem was, he was so focused on what he wanted that he was still dangerous. He was focused on what he wanted, he was accomplishing his plans. God says you know the plans I have for you, it's in there. Out here where you're just kind of it's all about you and you're self-centered. So guys, the plan becomes really important. A spandex male will not go without life with plans. He just simply won't. But some of you guys made plans and God's not in them. You haven't used your whole core and you're almost as dangerous as a guy who has no plans.

Now Roy ran out of alphabet. One of the funniest things, man, we always said we're so glad that God put twenty-six letters in the English alphabet because it limits the number of points that Roy has. You'll notice in your books there, however, Roy just went crazy. He ran out of alphabets, so he started making what I could call the battery alphabet, AA, BB, CC, DD and what he does is just says I ran out of points, so here I go.

So let's look at AA. He can't assume that he knows his own medical condition without cooperating with a physician's advice and participating

in a medical examination. He can't assume that he knows better than a doctor necessarily. He can't assume that you're okay. Now I want to go over here but I'm going to be honest with you, I'm going to stay here.

When I was raising my sons, we were at an interesting place. We had left one ministry and was doing another ministry and left all the comforts of our economics. Like we had no medical insurance with a family of six for seven years and during that time period all the priority went to my children, so the children's dental, the children's doctor, to Lynn and her care and I sort of got in the habit of saying what about me? I'm not too concerned about that. So no my knighthood plan this year, I realized that I have this little time bomb going, ready to go off and so I'm sort of dealing with it a little bit differently, so on my knighthood plan it's actually reflected. There's a couple very clear goals that make a difference. Now by the way guys, don't just spot your knighthood plan and say, you know what, I got this idea. I'm going to work on it. Put some goals together, very hard, what are you going to do to make a difference so you can measure it, so that next year you are. So this one actually I'm not in the zone. I've actually reduced some of the power that's available to me. A little more spandexy in this one.

Look at BB. He can't take care of his family after his death without carefully exploring his legal options and creating a will. Guys, this is huge. This I learned doing Knights with you guys. I'm in this zone. See when you're gone, all the protection that you provide is gone too unless

you build some things around it that make it feel much safer. So I am definitely in this spot in my life. In this spot in my life what makes me feel so comfortable, so safe, so secure, is the fact that I know that Lynn is taken care of, my boys are alive so I'm not really trying to figure out how to take care of them, but they have letters. They have all kinds of things. Lynn, all the things that she's going to need, all in one spot, one area.

Most guys over the years that have been with us five years, this became one of the things in their knighthood plan that they put and worked on. So maybe you want to add this one. Deal with your death now which takes us actually to CC. Look at CC. He can't adequately deal with the forest loss without doing his grief work and acknowledging his sadness. Guys, one of the things I want you to make sure that you know the power of grief. If you miss the power of grief, when you say, you know what, when I experience something sad, I'm just going to ignore it, you are actually a bomb waiting to go off but when you come in here, and you know the power of grief and you experience the loss and you mourn it and you deal with your sadness – I used to think that I couldn't let my family see what I was going through with Caleb's cancer. One day Josh, my oldest son, said to me, hey dad, I'll tell you what. I'll take care of the family. You take care of Caleb and you take care of your own grief work. I talked to a guy, a knight, a guy in one of our campuses at our church. We have several Knights groups going on in our church at different campuses. I'm using the Lancaster campus and his father had died. His

father is a pretty sharp guy about probably late 50s, a tree branch fell on him that we was cutting down after a storm and it killed him. Suddenly, obviously and I was talking to this guy and I said, how are you doing with your grief, the loss of your dad? This guy is, he's sharp in all kinds of levels. He's a paramedic and he helps people all the time and I said how are you doing? He said something very interesting. He said, I'm so busy caring for everybody right now that I haven't had time to grieve but I have it scheduled. I love that. I love that. He's going, you know what? I'm not going to ignore it. His power was intact. He was taking what he had to take care of, his mom and all the extended family but he was able to make a big difference.

Look at DD. He can't follow God's guidance in his life without reading the Bible which will help him to understand who God is. When I'm up in the morning, even before my eyes are open man, there are a couple passages of scripture that I know that I kind of walk through. There's about seven or eight of those that I kind of walk through. I stay in this. I know that the power, power actually is not in the Bible. The power is in the God of the Bible, through the Bible and what God does in a powerful way, if you spend time with Him, you're just going to see it and understand it. You're going to make all the difference in the world. In fact, what you're going to do, is you're going to join Jesus in here. Jesus is never out here. When he came to earth, he restricted his power and his freedom to accomplish something that was so significant. He says, join

me. So spend time in God's Word and I want you to look through all of these thirty items and say which ones have I circled and which ones haven't I? Which one am I out and which one am I in? And the ones you're out on, why don't they become part of your knighthood plan and focus in on how they can come in because truly a knight functioning at all levels is in, in the zone, making a difference.

Guys we have one more week. You're going to be amazed at some of the things we're going to talk about next week. I think it's very freeing, very clear, but make sure that you're in the zone doing all that you're designed to do. We'll see you next week in Trail 24. See you then.