MEN'S FRATERNITY

Knights of the 21st Century

Trail 24

KEITH: There is probably no more important trail than five years of twenty-four trails than the one we're about to do. For some of you guys, this is your first year. Well done. Way to go. Turning in a knighthood plan and graduating, it's an incredible accomplishment. For some of you, it's year five or somewhere in between. For you guys that did year five, what we're about to do is just a culmination of everything we've been learning to do as knights. It's a tremendous honor to get this far. I'm so impressed with you. I'm so amazed. To understand what you're about to do now as a full focused Christ following knight. You're about to make a difference in the world.

Behind me is this box. It represents for right now, the world, the world and all of its needs in desperate need of a rescue. That rescuer is not you. It's not me. That rescuer is the King of Kings, Lord of Lords who came and said "for unto you is born this day in the City of David, a Savior who is Christ the Lord." He came as a warrior. He came as a warrior saying I will take back the ground that the shadow, Satan, and all the evil in the world has taken and I will rescue the world for God so loved the world that He gave His only son. Whoever believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. That's what Christ did, when He came, when He came to the cross and He beat death and He arose from the dead and He

said, okay, now, I'm making the rescue available. If they want it, they can have it. It's theirs and then he does something really incredible. He says, I'm going to leave. I'm going to leave this world in your hands. Oh, I'll still be the rescuer but I'm going to transfer my sword from me to you. You now protect that which I rescued. That's a Knight of the 21st Century. That's a follower of the King of Kings.

As a matter of fact, maybe a better analogy or as good of an analogy there is was given by John the Baptist when he's talking to Jesus and she says I've told you all along, I'm not the Christ. He says, I am the best man. You know what's interesting about that? There is the groom, Christ and we know who we are. We are His best man. It's about Him and His bride and we're here to make Him safe and more importantly, the bride safe so that He can rescue the world that He came to rescue.

In your Knightly News, there is a warrior named John, a follower of Jesus. He was a disciple. He's the only disciple that will not die a martyr's death. He's being sent to an island of Patmos and there he'll write the book of the revelation of Christ, the revelation of Jesus. He's going to talk about the transfer from Christ to us and what difference it's going to make. And what gives John the credibility to do that is a statement in your Knightly News. The credibility of what he has to say is connected to the credibility of Jesus Christ and his relationship with him. A relationship with Jesus Christ is at the heart of a defender.

Defender

When Christ left and he transferred the sword from himself to us, He did something else that's remarkable. He said I will not make you protect the whole world because you can't. I came to save the world. I'm the rescuer, but I will teach you to be a defender of your world. So behind us in this box represents the world that we care for, that we protect. One of the greatest honors in your life is the honor to do just that.

What we're going to do is we're going to walk through a series of the trails that we went through this year all culminating in this incredible position of a defender of the world that God has rescued. That's what we do. We protect that which God is doing and it's an incredible honor.

Look at paragraph A. As a knight, you've learned about yourself during the course of this program and you have learned to express yourself honestly. This is profound, right. Well as a knight, you're going to do several things and each one of us is going to walk through, we're going to walk through these trails with you as we hand the guard one to another, as God has been handing the guard from one of us to the next for generations, all protecting a world that He's rescued. Remember now guys, you're not the rescuer. It's not up to you. You're just the defender. A tremendous privilege.

ROY: Wow. Such an honor. Such an honor to be given this sword from a friend and yet also from Jesus Christ. God has called us to defend our world. When you look at the world, can you see it? It says son, you're the only son that some folks have and one of the sons. It

says husband. What a special role. No one has the influence you do in the person's life that calls you husband. How about father? How about employee? How about friend? How about brother in Christ? God has given you a special calling to defend individuals that you have influence with because of the special ways you relate to them. What an honor. God please help us.

We need to recognize that you live in a forest that wounds others and there are many people around you who are hurting as they adjust to life's challenges. All we have to do is turn on the news and we hear all kinds of tragedy and trauma and negativity. The world we're called to protect is not a safe world. We have to help people around us get through it.

One of the reasons why it's not safe is if just two or three of us were on an island, we'd mess it up. The sin within ourselves sometimes causes others to be hurt and yet God has given us the sword and called us to defend. In Romans, it says the very creation groans against what's going on around it. God has given me a sword. I must use it for His will.

ROBERT: No. 2, have an internal list of personal strengths which are important to your ability to lead others. Use these strengths regularly as part of your lifestyle. If you remember back in Trail 2, we took a test to see what those strengths are. It might be a good idea to go back and check out that trail again. Take that test again to see where you land so. What's so important is for us to understand our strengths so that

everything that God has made us responsible for, that we may be able to apply those strengths to that. It's always great to be aware of such things. Never forget. Never forget it.

KEITH: 3. We are aware of the physiological, safety-security, love and belonging, self-esteem, and self-actualization needs of others and have adjusted your style to influence others positively. When you carry the sword, it's fully aware of the fact that behind you, people have needs, physical needs, need to feel valued, need to feel authentic, need to feel like they are something worth protecting. I remember times when I would get mad at my kids at the dinner table when they were little and I would see the fear in their face. And it was almost like they were trying to figure out how to get away from me. Those were always sad memories for me. You and I walk into a room, it's always safer. It's always helping people to feel loved and belonging. It's always making people realize that I'm aware of your needs, I'm aware of your needs for security. When we walk into their world we realize that the best man is going to do the work of the groom, right. The groom, what did he come to do? He came to seek and to save that which is lost. He came to care and love and do all these things. Well now we get to protect what he's about to do. So what we do, when we demonstrate well the person of Christ into our families, they feel safe. We do it where we work. We do it wherever we are engaged. When we find ourselves fighting for the same things that Christ fights for, but knowing we're not the rescuer, we're just the protector,

people begin to feel safe behind us. This whole year has been about us understanding that people behind us have needs and we will make it so they feel safe. That's what a defender does.

CLAIR: No. 4. Knights have learned to control their armor which provides protection for you and for others. The use of your armor's protection is balanced and being open and vulnerable which enables you to build relational bridges with others. Guys, this armor thing is a really interesting concept. It's extremely harsh. It's hard. It has an exterior and it's very useful. It's a tool. It protects us in areas of danger. It protects us from people that we should not be in a relationship with. However, we do need to build relationship bridges if we're going to be in a relationship with others.

There's this amazing balance. As I walk up to you, if I perceive danger, I have a right, I have a need to put that armor up. But if you're someone that does have value that I want to be in relationship with, I've got to learn to let the armor down a little bit. If I don't you're never going to be able to connect with me. You're never going to know who I am. I think the reality is that every relationship that I've been in and am currently in has some bumps. There's some damage gets done but if my armor is up all the time, there is no relationship. If I let the armor down and I strengthen my core, I'm able to take some of those blows, some of those things because my armors down, they come through and they hit me a little bit hard, a little bit of a sting from a friend. But a strong core can

survive those stings, relationship continues and two people are building those relationship bridges. So learn to use your armor well. It's a protector but drop it when you're trying to be in a great relationship with someone.

T.C.: 5. Willingly study the lenses and filters you use to see the world and work to change those that distort your view. This is an important one because when we were doing Trail 5, if you think back, we were talking about a knight being able to clearly see. And when we say that, we're talking about the way you perceive the world. You know we refer to the world as the forest. And this is just how you see things. This is just how you perceive things. This is your perspective, the way you view the world, the way you view situations around you. And if this is always cloudy or this is always foggy, or you're unsure, you're unsure about people, you're unsure about yourself, you're unsure about circumstances, you're unsure about the world around you, it's going to be real hard to defend. It's going to be real hard to protect. You'll be slow to move, slow to act, unsure, unsettled, unstable. That's not the way to be. So you have to figure out what's going to help me get the right perspective. I know for me, you've been seeing me throughout these trails, if you've been paying attention. I've got this thing around my neck. This chain has a letter L on it. This is a car device. This is how you get in and out of your car and I almost died in this car crash. And the reason I've worn it ever since – it's been years since this happened, but the

reason I wear it is because it reminds me. This is the letter L on there and that letter L reminds me of life and how important it is. I remember when my wife and my children came to pick me up at the car wreck site and I looked back at the car crash and the car wreck and I looked at it and I said, man, I was careless today. And I didn't plan on dying today and I never know when I'm going to die so that's my perspective because I never know when I'm going to have my last chance to defend my family, to protect my wife, to protect their interests, to protect their goals, and to protect anybody in the world around me, so it made me focused. It made me filter out the right things. I'm challenging you to do the same things. Make sure that you have the right perspective. A knight has to see and he has to be able to see clearly.

ROY: No. 6. Attempt to view through the lens of God which includes the way he views you. I don't see things real perfectly. I can distort some of the very people God has called me to protect. I need to learn how to see what God sees. I need to study the parts of me from my past, some of my prejudices, some of the false things I believe in and learn, and I've got to put them aside so that I can be what God has called me to be and protect what God has called me to protect. I only do this if I see things God's way.

ROBERT: Explore the ways that your mother taught you to deal with life and accept her perspective when it agrees with reality. Gentlemen, growing up, mom had a lot of influence over you. More than

likely you probably think a lot of the same – think the same way that she does in a lot of things. And when it comes to defending this world that God has given us to defend, you got to be aware of what those beliefs are of what those systems are, those patterns that you learned. It's not that they're wrong, you just need to be aware of them. You got to figure out which one of them actually agrees with reality. Should you continue believing that way or is there a better way, a more honorable way?

KEITH: 8. Have decided what you believe, for you know that your beliefs will influence your future choices. As a knight, you have chosen to follow the 15 principles of manhood. Know what you believe. See, if you don't' know what you believe, you can't defend because you're swinging at everything. You didn't even know what you believe. We gave you 10 checks to make sure you knew that your belief was intact, plus we've given you 15 principles of a knight. I'll tell you how important that is to those that we're protecting. When Christ came to earth, He knew exactly what He was about. There were days when people had great needs and He would only meet one or two of them instead of all of them. I often thought, why wouldn't you meet them all? If you could raise one person from the dead, raise everybody from the dead. If you could heal one, heal them all, but Christ knew what He was about. He knew what His beliefs were that he was to be the Savior of the world not the rescuer of just one individual. Sometimes that gets pretty confusing for us to understand because we would say, if it was us, we would do all this

stuff and then we'd all of a sudden realize what do you believe? Do you know what I've discovered? I can only defend the world in which God has given me. I believe that. So to do that, Principle 1, it's hard. Men do what's hard. So, it's what you believe.

Maybe one of the things you want to do, a few years ago in a Knight's program, we went through and we said, may "I am" statements. Statements about who you are, who you believe that you are. One of the things you might want to keep doing in your life is saying, what do I believe, because what you believe will cause you to know where to stand when it comes to defending those that are important to you.

CLAIR: No. 9. A knight honestly assesses his father and has chosen to internalize what was good about what he modeled. You can seek to model what God the Father desires in areas where you need to be different from your earthly father. A few trails ago, we actually took a pretty honest look at our dads and it was tough. None of us wanted to be too judgmental, but our dads were not perfect, Just as we as fathers today are not perfect. So as we looked at them, it is not disrespectful to your dad to say look, you were great in certain areas but there's other areas I don't want to model you. Actually the Bible says that a great son is the pride of his father. Now there's something really cool about looking at my dad and I told him this. Dad you are so good in these areas, I want to learn from you. The other areas I'm not so vocal about. There's certain things he did I don't want to do.

My sons' situation, 18 and 21 year old sons, when they were, I believe 14-15, somewhere in there, I took each of them away on a father-son trip. I actually let them pick anywhere in the world they wanted to go and we spent two weeks together. At the beginning of those two weeks, we told them some things I want you to think about. I did not want them to answer quickly. What I asked them is, guys, if you look at my life, what areas do you see as strengths and will you take those strengths, let me teach you and what areas are you a little bit disappointed. I didn't – I really wanted them to be honest with it. I don't want them taking areas I'm weak in. I want them taking areas I'm strong in and I use the phrase with them – take the best and leave the rest. I understand that.

Now guys, we have a variety of fathers out there, I was blessed with a pretty good dad. I'm trying to be a good dad. I know for some of you, man, there isn't a whole lot of good you can take from your dad. However, one thing we all have in common, we all have a Heavenly Father. That Heavenly Father is absolutely perfect, every characteristic He has is something we should try to model after so if you can't find a whole lot of good with your earthly dad, look to your Heavenly Father and say, God, what can I take from you? What can I build into my life that are honorable characteristics?

T.C.: 10. Evaluate all of your filters honestly. By doing this, you limit negative effects of your past and actively avoid the phrases and thoughts that keep you stuck. Guys, feelings are powerful things. They

can enhance your ability to protect and defend or they can make it tough, you know, and make it hard to protect and defend. Feelings are one of those things you definitely have to have a grip on. I know through this Trail you've heard me talk about my dad and we talked about fathers a lot. For me, I didn't have mine in my life and what that led me to for such a long time was resentment, hate, feelings that I had been robbed of a proper childhood, and these feelings affected me negatively because throughout my life when people would start talking about their fathers, even in a positive way, it could be a great moment where I should be celebrating with them, I couldn't do it, because all I thought about was, man, that should be me too. I got robbed of that and I couldn't celebrate for my brothers when I should have. So, learning how to forgive, which is what my Heavenly Father has done for me, and made life better for me, learning how to get in control of my feelings and process the way I view it, the way I feel about it, I've got a better relationship with my dad. We've been friends for the last three years after not knowing each other for about thirty of them. But what this has done for me is I filter things and start to weigh as it can enhance my ability to protect and defend the world around me. My relationship with him is better, and then my relationship with other people is better because I don't get offended when they celebrate their relationships with their fathers because now I can celebrate a good relationship with mine. So it's important to make sure

you filter in the forest in the proper way so that you can properly protect and defend.

ROY: I want what God allows. I really, really want what God allows. I want reality and life to go my way what God allows. So do the people I'm protecting. They want and yet God allows. Eleven states, learn to accept and deal with the differences between what you want in the forest and what you receive. This is a challenge. This is an amazing challenge. I need to ask God's strength to help me accept what is versus what I think should be. The Psalms are filled with David struggling with the same thing. Why do my enemies seem to succeed? You and I need to learn to live by faith and not sight.

ROBERT: Gentlemen, try to understand your emotional reactions. This enables you to use your brain that feels to express yourself in positive ways and to help others. Whoever says a man don't have emotions has never been to a football game, am I right. Guys, the truth is that we do feel. Oh, we feel a lot. Sometimes it can be said, sometimes we can feel lonely. Other times we can be excited and overjoyed, happy. It's important to understand our emotions, to decipher and navigate through them, understand why we have them. Because only then will we be able to influence in a positive way the world that God has asked us to defend.

KEITH: 13. Demonstrate that you value yourself by developing your gifts accepting the respect of others and appreciating God's efforts

to develop a relationship with you. Do you know what's interesting? There were guys in your life when you were little that were defending. Maybe not you, maybe. The God of the universe has been looking for ways to protect you forever. It's always _____, journey. His response is to rescue us. His response is to get us to know what he made is good. If you value you, you're going to realize that somebody somewhere along the line was defending you. Maybe, maybe it's just Jesus for you. You didn't have a guy in your life to do this with, that you were valuable. The key is have you transferred that to those behind you? Does Lynn feel valued? Do my sons feel valued, their wives, my grandchildren? Do the guys I do life with, the people I serve, the people at the bank that I stop by and see, my neighbors, do they feel valued? If I don't value me, I won't value them and so what happens is I'm a terrible defender when that takes place. We spend some time saying how do we learn to value us? How do we get to the point where we say, you know what, I'm a defender. Christ felt it would better if I were to stay and He were to go. I'm a defender. You can't get much more valuable than that.

CLAIR: Let's move on to 14. A knight knows that the use of your money wisely – that we use our money wisely by listening to your mind's king, lover, warrior and friend for regular input. Guys, as I think about this, you may have heard the phrase at some point in your life, money is the root of all evil. I've heard it phrased exactly that way and I believed it for a long time. This little piece of paper is evil. Here's the

truth. I think that phrase is started in the Bible and very clear the Bible adds two additional words – the love of money is the root of all evil and basically what it's saying is if you put too much importance on it, bad things start to happen. Guys, money is just paper and in our culture, it's an important piece of paper. It's hard to function without it. However, it's a tool, a tool that needs to be used wisely, needs to be thought about and every part of our manhood we need to listen to when we decide how to use it. It needs to be in line with your goals. If one of your goals is to be a protector, we use our money to protect those we love. If it's to be an encourager, we use it to encourage others. It's just a tool, nothing more. Do not let it control you.

T.C.: 15. Acknowledge your shadow's continued presence in your life. You work actively to limit its effects on you and your relationships. Guys, I'm pretty passionate about this one because the Bible says that the enemy comes to steal, kill and destroy. And we're talking about sin here. We're talking about the shadow and you know the whole point of the lesson is that it's always with you. And you notice in the point that it says you want to limit it's affects on you. Let's be real. You ain't going to always beat sin. You know we got to be humble and understand that and that's when we're going to be at our best, understanding that. But that shadow is always trying to mess you up. I think there is – well I know – I know that God has an amazing life planned for you and for me, you know, and Satan is aware of that amazing life.

Defender

He's aware of all the people you're going to be able to protect, all the people you're going to be able to defend, all the lives you're going to change, you know, including your own. All the people you'll impact, all the positive things that you are going to do. Sin, shadow, Satan wants to stop that, wants to steal that, doesn't want anything positive happening in your life. I know the promise in scripture says end this life, you will have trouble. But the cool thing about it is in both of those scriptures, Jesus promises a way out. He says I come that you may have life and have it to the full. You're studying Knights of the 21st Century to learn how to be a complete man and live a full life. And then He also tells you that He's got it worked out. He says you're going to have trouble, but He says, take heart, I've overcome the world. And that's what you're here to do, protect, defend, you know, this world that Jesus Christ has overcome for us. Sin will always be there, but because God has given us the Holy Spirit, man, we got the power to _____ on a regular basis. We may not get it all the time but we'll get enough to be able to defend and protect well. I'm challenging you to just never forget that, never forget that.

ROY: Called to protect and yet often distracted. Sixteen says, express your sexual impulses in ways that are loving and demonstrate that you value the other. God has created us with a hormone testosterone and as a result, it sometimes likes to highjack our mind and highjack our feelings and connect up to an image of a woman as she walks by in order

to get some cheap release. In order to protect the hearts of the women in my life, I have to protect all women. I need to come up with a way to deal with this attempted highjacking. I need to remember that this woman has a name. I need to be focused on she may be a mother. I need to realize God really loves her.

ROBERT: Listen to your soul's desire regarding your belief in God. You have developed a life theme that is the basis for your decision making process. Fellow knights, those of us that have put our faith and trust in Jesus Christ, well the Bible tells us that we now have a heart of flesh, that our heart of stone was replaced. That now we have new desires and it's the Holy Spirit living within that guides us. Men, as we begin to mature and become men, men of God, knights, we become more sensitive to the Holy Spirit and when we allow the Holy Spirit to guide, then we can truly be knights and defenders of this world.

KEITH: 18. Make choices regarding the habits that best express your manhood. You are able to adjust your direction when life within the forest demands it. So guys, make it real simple, one of your habits that you live a life like a defender, a defender of that which is important, people and relationships. Do you have habits in your life that speak well of your longing, speak well of your desire, speak well of who you are? Because when you do that, the people behind you say, I can count on you.

About a number of weddings, whenever the best man forgets the wedding ring and messes up the ceremony, we're the best man in this story guys. Make sure your habits are such that those behind you can count on you to defend them and protect them.

CLAIR: No. 19. As a knight you need to choose to live in ways that should you die in the very near future, you have resolved the painful or problematic issues that exist within your current relationships. Well guys, the concept of dying as we found out is not one of our favorite topics. We love to think that life goes on forever, but honestly it doesn't.

I had a friend of ours, must have been about four years now, he was my oldest son's age. He would have been 21 today. My friend, his son, was out late one night and my friend called him on the cell phone and said, you know son, you have a curfew. When are you coming home? He didn't make it home that night. They hung up the phone and his car went off the road, flipped on its roof and he died, never made it. If they had any resolved issues, there was no chance to fix them up.

More recently, a friend of mine sitting in his basement watching football and his wife calls down the stairs and she says, did you get the mail. And he said, no, but I'll get it later. She goes, don't bother. I'll get it. She never came back. She crossed the road, got the mail out of the mailbox and turned to walk back and got hit by a car. We don't know exactly what happened. She's gone. Guys, don't assume you have forever to resolve these issues. I know that sometimes we say time heals

everything, but honestly, maybe you need to look and put a little more urgency on some of those relationships that need some help because you never know. When you hang up that phone or when you say I'll get the mail later, might those be the last words you'll ever get with someone you love.

T.C.: 20. Follow the flow of your unique calling, whether that means fixing cars, selling insurance, farming or any other occupation. You attempt to reflect God's love to others on a daily basis. Guys, this is pretty straightforward. Whatever it takes. Whatever it takes. Whatever it takes. God gave us a commandment and the two top commandments was to love Him and to love people. You do whatever you have to do to love well. If you know how to love and you love hard, you'll be a successful knight. You'll be a successful defender. You'll be a successful protector. Use every resource you got. Use all the strength you've got, any opportunity you get to do the best you can and allow it to equip you to be the best you can for other people. And that takes a selfless thought process. This can be difficult because we're in a me, me, me world. I'm challenging you to honor those two commandments – love God and love people.

ROY: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Twenty-one says, put effort into developing your intimate relationships. You assist people who are struggling with past issues, are behaving in imperfect ways, or

are different from you. You and I are imperfect and part of loving others well is first believing in the forgiveness that we get from God and being able to ask God to empower us as we relate to others. As we need forgiven, sometimes God calls us to forgive others. Relationships are important. The guys in your campfire are supposed to be there for you throughout the rest of your life. Allow yourself to appreciate the relationships you have created this year and build upon them.

ROBERT: Increase your level of intimacy with others by dealing with conflicts in ways that encourage the relationship to grow. Gentlemen, we need to be good listeners and sometimes we have to understand when there's a difference of opinion, it doesn't mean we have to draw our sword because if we do that, if all we do is attack and prepare to attack, it does the world no good. Sometimes the best thing to do is lay your weapon down and then you can listen and be of help to your world. Never forget that.

KEITH: 23. Confront the spandex male parts of yourself. You learn to acknowledge what you can't do as a man, let go of your anger and diligently pursue what you should do as a man. Remember the power we talked about last week, to protect a world that Christ is rescuing requires power. It means you're going to take up your sword, and you're going to protect, you're going to fight against that which is trying to destroy, that which is being entrusted to your care. Spandex males don't

do that. To be honest with you, spandex males don't turn in knighthood plans and don't graduate like you are.

For generations, from the beginning of the world, from the beginning of Christ until now, this sword has been handed from Christ to us. And like we've been handing it one to another, you will also hand off your sword to your children, to the guys in your campfire group, those around you as one by one you say, I've become a defender, the person who has the opportunity to rescue a lost and dying world by protecting that which is Christ's doing, helping those who couldn't possibly help themselves.

There will come a time, guys, where Jesus Christ will return to this world and when He does, the sword can be laid down but not until His return. Be a defender. Be a Knight of the 21st Century. God bless you guys, well done.

ROY: This is a very important moment. It's your graduation. You guys have looked at some tough things throughout this whole period of time and faith aspects of yourself so that you can grow and honor God better. Congratulations. We are proud of you. Men across the world who have taken the time to say I want to be different. I want to be like Jesus. We look forward next year to maybe seeing some of you guys work with us in a series called Revolution, but until we meet again, congrats and way to go and I am proud to have you on our team.

ROBERT: Gentlemen. What can I tell you. You know you guys haven't just completed a program. What you've done is you've made a

choice. You've made a choice to stop being just ordinary men and enter and become leaders of extraordinary families. You're looking for that extraordinary life. The only place you can find it, of course, is through Jesus Christ and that's what we've been doing this whole time, is understanding that true manhood is actually becoming more like Christ. Guys, I applaud you for all your effort. Let me tell you, it doesn't go in vain. You guys have been walking these trails with us and week to week it's a tangible difference. You know your families have seen it, the friends around your campfires have definitely seen it, and those relationships have actually gotten tighter, deeper with more meaning. The lessons you've taken from this program are going to follow you the rest of your life. I applaud you. Congratulations. You guys deserve to be called knights.

T.C.: This is a big moment for you. Over the last 24 lessons, you've disclosed some things about yourself and you've made the tough choices. I'm going to tell you what I would tell my brothers. I got a couple of brothers who have not made the choices that you've made and because I know what life is like when you don't make the proper choices, I've just been watching them get beat up. And I'm glad you made the choice to not let life beat you up. You're going to take the fight to life. I'm just encouraging you to never give up. I'm encouraging you to take everything you've learned and just continue to apply it because what you've done is just the beginning. You go all the tools, you know, but a

gun with a bunch of bullets in it is useless if you don't pick it up and pull the trigger. So I'm encouraging you to go out there and pull the trigger but you have graduated to a point that you got the tools and I want to just see you use them. So I'm proud of you. I want to say congratulations and I look forward to hearing some stories of victory in your life.

CLAIR: Guys, hard to describe how proud we are of you. You're part of an elite group. It's almost sad to think how few men do something like you just got done doing. Many of you have just spent 24 weeks together. Some of you have done this for multiple years. Of those 24 weeks, roughly 36 hours investing in trying to understand what a man is and raising the bar and challenging each other. Guys, think about what it would be like if many more men did this, how we'd change our families, our communities, our businesses, our entire country, our entire world would benefit from it. So way to go.

Now you're about ready to enter maybe a break. I want to encourage you to stay connected with your knights, your fellow knights that you've built relationships with. Keep that momentum going. If you're taking a break in the material, guys, stay connected. Keep doing life together. If you're jumping right into another part of the Knights series, I want to encourage you to come back. Let me tell you something we've learned. Society is never, ever, ever going to stop trying to lower the bar on your manhood. It's going to kind of trying to keep chipping away. Guys, fight back, do life together. Be a Knight of the 21st Century.

KEITH: One of the most amazing things guys is you've actually fulfilled a verse. Joshua 1:9 says, be strong, be encouraged. Don't be afraid. Don't worry. The Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. Do you know who that is? It's you. Courageous. You're a man who said, you know what, I'm willing to do whatever it takes, to protect that which is important in a world that God has entrusted me to guard. You've been fearless because in order for you to share what you've shared in your campfire, in order for you to write it down in a knighthood plan, that's incredible. Way to go. Be strong. When you wanted to run, when the nights were too long, when it felt like it wasn't ever going to end, the reality is you stuck with it and most importantly, you learned to trust the Lord your God wherever you go. As a result of that, everyone behind you is safe. I agree with these men. We applaud you. We are just so impressed with your courage, your strength. We trust. And the fearlessness to a Knight of the 21st Century. Well done.

What we thought we'd do is T.C. is going to lead us kind of in a psych up moment to just tell you thank you and your accomplishments. So I'm going to turn it over to him. Hang onto your hats guys.

T.C.: Well the key thing is, you know, Keith said we. That means you're not alone. It's not – you don't have to do this by yourself. You know, even if you were alone doing this the whole lesson, you got to know there are knights all across the world, _____all across the world doing it with you. You're a part of the largest campfire ever, man, if

anybody ever went through this thing. And I'm a team guy and when we win, we celebrate our wins. You know you graduate, that's a win. You defeated life, you defeated Satan, you defeated a plan for you to fail, you defeated mediocrity, you defeated all these things that will hold you back. You're already pressing forward so I want to celebrate that win. And this is just how we do it so wherever you are all across the world, knights everywhere, Godly men everywhere who have completed this program to stand up wherever you're at, stand up just like we are and what we're going to do man is we're just going to start this clap (clapping noise) and we're going to clap it up, keep it going. Congratulations baby. Way to go guys. (Clapping)

Hey listen, if you and a group of guys get together, get it in just like we're getting it in. If you're by yourself, man, just point your hand toward the television and get with this campfire right here. We're going Knights on three. One, two, three KNIGHTS. Congratulations.