

Knights of the 21st Century

Trail 2 –

It's amazing how as men we've lost the art of telling stories. Now it's funny because we're talking about warriors and we think, okay, what about a warrior and telling stories but if you think about it, how all of our stories of warriors have come about is because people have been story tellers for a long time. If we really want to get involved in making a huge difference in the world in which we live, gentlemen, we're going to have to learn the art of story telling and there's a reason for it. I grew up being told stories by my dad actually. It's interesting, you'll get to know a little bit about my dad this year, but my dad for the first eleven or twelve years of my life was a pretty good dad and then something happened in his life where he just simply stopped trusting God, stopped having faith and he changed, something changed until just about four days before his death forty-five years later. I was, I remember growing up with his stories. He had great stories, my dad. There was the crab story. Underneath his sister's bedroom in the middle of the night. That was a great story. We loved to hear that one and her screaming and the whole thing and him getting in trouble and blaming it on his Uncle Dan. There's a sledgehammer story when they're building the tree fort and Dan's up above and I won't go into detail. It just involved blood and hospitals and it was cool and there's a drowning story.

My dad almost drowned three things. You would think he would learn to stay out of the water, but no, he kept on diving in. But my favorite story, anytime we had a story that was told with Walt Ashcraft we knew it was a great story. My dad had this best friend named Walt Ashcraft and everything they ever did that was illegal and everything they ever did that was bad, everything they did that got them in trouble, everything they did that was careless always, always involved Walt Ashcraft. And so one day we were, he'd be telling me this story and he got bigger as he would tell it, but the cool part about it when you're a little kid, I mean you're just biting on everything. It involved Walt and my dad. My dad lived in thirteen places in the seventeen years during the depression and so he and Walt were always sort of close enough together to find things, but they were always finding new things because my dad kept on moving. They found this quarry one day, this older banning quarry. It had this old chain link fence around it that was rusted and they climbed over it of course, because that's what the adventure is and they were hacking around and, and if you can imagine what it was like to hear the story as a little kid, you know, this is a story where my dad is all over the danger of this whole moment and finally he got too close to the edge and the dirt gave way and he fell and he grabbed a hold of the edge before he dropped about sixteen thousand feet below into the jagged rocks which acid filled water

with sharks and alligators. You know how it was when you envision it as a kid and I remember saying, did you die dad, did you fall and die. I wasn't too smart as a kid and my dad no I made it. I go well, how did you make it and he goes well it was Walt. Walt Ashcraft, man. Walt Ashcraft stories were always good because there's this moment where Walt probably got him into trouble but also sort of rescued him. He was drowning and Walt rescues him, that kind of thing. So my dad's hanging off this cliff, getting ready to fall to his death, and Walt Ashcraft says, I'll be sure to help you George and he went looking around and he found an old cable, maybe a cable off of a crane or something. He found this old cable and he flipped it down to my dad. He snapped it until he got it closer to him and my dad had to go this moment where he would let go of the cliff and leap and grab hold of that cable and Walt would pull him to his safety. We also discussed that great leap of faith from the wall to the cable and Walt pulling him up and all that kind of stuff and at that moment in the story, I remember that I had this amazing combination between things that I would feel and things that I would think about. I'd think about all the imagery that he created but then the emotion of the moment, when the cable came down and Walt would be there and suddenly this issue between my feelings and my thoughts came clear. It all kind of came together. That's story

telling. It's that amazing ability that we have to put together that which we feel with that which we think.

Now it's interesting that if I were to tell you this is Trail 2 on how a man could change the world, it's not too late for us to change the world at us. And I'm going to tell you it's about feelings and thoughts, you go, well this is going to be a weird session. Actually it's really not. It actually makes an awful lot of sense. The art of story telling is this amazing ability for you and I to come together and say, let's bring together this issue in our life, this balance between that which we feel over here with that which we think here. We've sort of gotten rid of that, other than watching movies, other than a few moments in sporting events and the birth of your children and something like that. We've gotten away from the art of that whole area.

Listen to this concept that will maybe help you to understand where we're going. We've talked about the fact that the core of a warrior has six parts. We know that, right. The core of the warrior has six parts and one of those six parts is his brain. And in the brain, it's divided sort of into two halves, the half that feels and the half that thinks. The core part that interacts with the forest is the body of which the significant part is the brain. The brain has two chief functions, thinking and feeling. Thinking and feeling. These are the two chief functions so as you write those down, thinking and

feeling, you understand this is the whole balance of a man. When a man comes together and he's working through something, it's not good if he just does it cognitively and doesn't do it emotionally or if he just it emotionally and not cognitively. Now we as guys were bent towards the thinking side and women are bent towards the emotional side and as a result of that, we sort of tend to pull even further away from emotion and we get ourselves into trouble and we lose a sense of balance.

There's an amazing story that we have in the Bible, in your Knightly News there. It's a story about a man by the name of Nathan and actually the story is a story of two men and a knight, that are knights and one man that isn't. Actually three men, two of which would be what you and I would want to have each other be, knights. It involves a story. Nathan walks into the King of Israel. His name happens to be David and he says, David, I want to tell you a story. And David is able to listen and engage and he will engage as we all do with stories, both with reason and with emotion. Nathan will tell this story. It goes something like this. He says, there's this man who was a poor man who had a lamb that he loved. He took care of that lamb. He would feed it and it would actually sleep in his bed with him at night. It was like his own child. He would just take care of his precious little lamb. That's all he had. There was a very wealthy man who lived right next door who had

tons of lambs and this one man just had this precious lamb that meant everything to him. One day the rich man had a guest come to his house and he wanted to fix some dinner but he didn't want to kill one of his many lambs, any of his sheep. He decided to go to his neighbor and take that sheep and execute it and feed it to his guests. David heard this story and all of his emotion welled up inside of him and all of a sudden what he was balanced in suddenly became out of balance when he said, who is that man? He will – I will make sure he pays up to four times the amount. And actually, he almost wanted to kill him. Nathan in this brilliant, brilliant moment looks at David and says, the man with the lamb is you. The man that has stolen that lamb from that other man, that's you. The culprit in the story is you David. David knew immediately what he was talking about. He had been found out. See, David had struggled with his moral conscience. One day when he was supposed to go off to war, he had hung back and saw a woman taking a bath, brought her into his home, slept with her. Now the story goes that Nathan's referring to because David sleeps with this woman. She's not his wife. It's called an affair, adultery and as he's engaged with her, she becomes pregnant. When she becomes pregnant, David knows he's going to be in trouble because this man's no longer here, her husband. And how are they going to find out that she got pregnant if he's off to battle, one of his own soldiers where David's supposed to

be. So David takes the lamb from the one man. David has many, takes the lamb. You know something really bizarre and we'll talk about this later on in the year but he actually has the man killed. Nathan is going to drive home this unbelievable point of what David thought he did in secret that nobody would know about but God knew and now the prophet Nathan knew. Nathan says, I'm going to get you to understand what you've done by the art of story telling. It's the balance. It's that amazing balance between the two. On one side you have what David knows he's done and he's denied and he's not feeling it anymore. And now Nathan says I'm going to get you to feel it. And when he did, David said I repent, I turn, I won't be that man anymore.

Sometimes you need to stop and just read the Bible and realize that God is a master at story telling and he's at story telling stories from back from history to give us both that which we feel as well as that which we think about. I want us to walk through these things and take a look at a couple of points that I think maybe will help us in the journey of understanding the difference between balance and feeling.

Look at Roman numeral one. The warrior learns to harness the energy that comes from developing all aspects of his feelings. Whenever we talk about feelings, we're going to underline that word harness. Alright, harness, because harness is what you and I need

to do. Feelings left unchecked and we become just terrible, terrible guys. Men that just are always raging, always losing it, they're very, very dangerous. So if you don't harness this thing. On the other hand, you need to understand that it also needs to be brought into our existence and thought through in our existence because if we're using that which thinks and not that which feels, we're going to become very unbalanced men and the world around us will start to crumble as we go.

Look at number one. In order to do this, passion must be brought into understanding. Passion, it's useful in accomplishing formidable tasks. Just understand, underline the word passion. Passion is necessary. If you're ever going to do anything that's valuable and if you're ever going to do anything that has a vision, that has lasting impact, passion's going to be behind it. Most great leaders are passionate people. Most great husbands are passionate men, men that understand what it means to feel strongly about something. However, if the word passion usually in our culture is used for sexual passion, and here's the danger – if you go with sexual passion as your driving force and you don't harness it, we have a think called date rape. We have a thing where we start to play on these edges that allow people that we value to get wounded and hurt and trashed. I'll talk about that in the next trail, more and

more about that on my own area in my life where I just did not for years learn the art of harnessing passion.

Look at number two, empathy. Empathy is useful in helping him understand the individuals around him. If you have passion on one side, you're going to need to have this emotion, this empathy to look around you and understand those who are all around you.

Empathy is something that we've lost of the art of as guys. It's where we listen to another guy's story and we feel it. We listen to our kid's story and we feel it. It's like if you ever have one of your children when they're real young or a little kid who maybe your brother or your sister, and they come up and they tell you this story will all passion and you're just going, yeah, uh-huh, and you're not even paying attention. Empathy is the ability to enter it. However, here's the deal. If you don't harness that, what it does is it brings you down or it gets you very much like, I wish that could be more or whatever else happens. You and I are in the business of learning to harness our emotions. We have them. We have to harness them. Now how do you do that? Well I think one of the easiest ways to do that is to learn to think through everything, think through the whole experience, not just the thought process, but you want to think through the emotions and in so doing it, you harness it. So you have passion on one side. You have empathy on the other.

Look at number three, intuition. Intuition is your gut. Useful in sensing the issues and feelings of others and then responding to them. Intuition is that idea of, okay I have passion and I'm going to control it and now I have this, kind of this gut feeling that comes. Well if I had been empathetic, there's where tenderness comes and then my gut gives me the courage to do what needs to be done. Just having your gut instinct, do you know what that is? It's where you're aware of the fact that now I got to be careful here. The other day we were off at a cabin and we were shooting our .22 rifle and one of my sons wanted to go check a target and his girlfriend had the rifle and I asked her just to set it down on the table, safety on, even though she wasn't even going to shoot the rifle, the fact was that my son had walked down into the range where we were shooting at and we said, let's just pull back. It was really interesting because my gut said put it on the table, sort of my feeling was, well she's not going to shoot it and I had to go deep with that feeling and say, wait a minute man, go with your gut, be safe, be wise. We have to constantly be thinking that way.

I was talking to a guy the other day who had a sense that his wife was not being faithful and I asked him why and as I started to push him, he couldn't name one fact but he had this gut instinct. And that gut instinct he actually had to understand. Now I said to him without facts, without balance you got to be careful here, but

there's probably a reason why you're feeling what you're feeling, so start to explore it. Don't accuse. Don't go after it. Don't do a whole series yet of investigation. Right now, just spend a few minutes just kind of saying there's a reason why you're feeling what you're feeling even though, even though you had no evidence in the factual side of what happens.

Look at number four, awareness. Awareness. Useful in preserving, persevering through forest highs and love. Don't know what it is about the word persevering that I have a struggle with but when you persevere through highs and lows, what you and I need to do is we need to stop and to think this thing through about how do we do the long haul. I don't know if any of you've lost somebody close to you, whether it be a parent or a child or a good friend or your maid or whatever else, but unless it's sudden and some of you have been there, there's usually a time of endurance during that illness and there's all kind of stuff that happens during there and if you just let the emotions run with you all the time, you end up getting into trouble. A balanced man, a man who has thought this thing through is a man who says, okay, I have to understand this is marathon here. Men don't do marathons real well. I mean we do marathon races okay. We don't do long distance things where we have to expend emotion.

I have a son right now who has brain cancer and one of the things that's interesting in that process is there's all the highs and lows of chemo and all the highs and lows of the tumor is back or not back and all that stuff that goes with it and it's a long push. It's funny how much it drains who I am. It's funny how much it kind of plays into my existence. I can't deny that those feelings are there but I also have to learn to harness them so that I can endure over a long period of time. Every great warrior has learned the art of endurance.

Look at number five. Number five is grief response. Now when we do oracle, we're going to spend some time in grief, but grief response is useful in giving losses their emotional due. I mentioned to you how when we were as guys dealing with loss of somebody important, grief is that ability to let yourself grieve over a period of time, let yourself express that grief. You know we're terrible at that. We really are. I mean we get over our sports team losing really quickly. We get over certain losses pretty quickly as men. As a matter of fact, we get over almost every loss quicker than females do. Sometimes you have to stop and just grieve because if you don't grieve that emotion is all run around inside there but it's not being dealt with. As a warrior, if you're ever going to take this vision of what you want to accomplish in your life and make a huge difference, you're going to learn to experience grief, allow yourself

the experience of it and move forward. It's sort of what story telling is all about. It's sort of what it's like to just allow yourself to review the history, the stories, the feelings, the emotion that goes with all this.

Look at the next one. Number six, righteous anger. Useful and motivating him to sacrifice his life for a cause beyond himself. One of the coolest things you and I have to do is learn the art of experiencing anger without exploding. I don't know whether you, I'm an exploder. I'm not an internal guy when it comes to anger. A lot of you guys, you guys that you get something and you just kind of shove it, shove it, shove it, shove it, shove it. And sometimes you don't ever explode, you just have a breakdown. Sometimes you just, you know, go get drunk. You just kind of shove, shove, shove. Some of you though, you react. Some of you can shove a bunch of stuff in then blow up but a lot of us are just kind of reactors. It's interesting, the titered I am the more I'm a reactor, sort of this explosion guy. And you have to learn to let your emotions be dealt with, undealt with and you don't get involved in dealing with your emotions, you don't get those harnessed. I think one of the most amazing things is we sit around and we tell stories as a family and it releases emotion. I mean even in the midst of crisis we share stories and the stories of the crisis. I can remember when Caleb was in the hospital for his third brain surgery. Our son has brain cancer

and it was the last day he had to be in the hospital. He was in an intensive care unit but he was going to go home the next day and they needed that intensive care unit for a greater person coming in so they moved him to a very small room that wasn't usually used to take care of patients. I remember Caleb's girlfriend who was there with him and with my wife in the hospital, she said to me, they put my boy in a closet. In the middle of the night they came in and put my boy in the closet. Nobody puts my boy in the closet. And I came out thinking about all that was going on that women were going to – the medical team was going to experience with her that night as she expressed that. That is the whole issue of where you and I have to say, okay, I'm having all of this response. How do I control I and how do I experience it? Putting my boy in a closet and how do I control it so it's not blown up and not causing effectiveness.

We tell you that each week when we get together we're going to talk about a warrior. I want to talk about one that died in 1995. His name was Yitzhak Rabin. He was a Jewish Prime Minister of the nation of Israel. He was an amazing man and he was a warrior literally, a general. He was a Prime Minister and he actually won the Nobel Peace Prize. It's an interesting combination of things. Um, in 1948 when there was a war going on, he was in charge of the City of Jerusalem which is a pretty big issue. He will then start to grow in political climate and power. He'll become the head of the

Israel defense forces in 1964. He'll ultimately be on his way to becoming the Prime Minister watch a variety of things take place, like remember the thing that happened in Munich, when the world sort of collapsed during the Olympic games and there Israeli athletes taken and ultimately killed in a blown rescue attempt. When Rabin becomes a Prime Minister, he has learned a lot by watching that whole experience and he is the one that handled the operation at Antibes, when an airliner was taken captive and it was a bunch of people in the world of – brought into Idi Amin's world in Entebbe including Israeli citizens were at risk on a tarmac and the Israeli's pulled off a rescue mission under Yitzhak Rabin's direction.

Amazing, amazing leader, but he also will bring about a peace force between Officer Arafat, remember that time in '94. He will get the Nobel Peace Prize by 1994 and will be assassinated by 1995. It's interesting that in the process of him he makes this quote, I just need to read this for you. "We do not celebrate the deaths of our enemies." Okay, now remember now, he's assassinated, right. He's a man that has been a warrior, a political leader and a Nobel Peace Prize winner and he says we do not celebrate the death of our enemies. Do you understand the depth of his balance, how's he's balanced the two areas in his life, the emotion and the thought process. That warrior who has thought it through. So often you and I need, if we're ever going to make a difference in the world at large,

to be the kind of man who starts to think these things through so that we can find balance. Great leaders are men of balance.

Look at the next point, Roman number two. A warrior learns to organize his reactions to the forest by using his thinking skills. See the whole issue of our reaction is you have to be organized. It's all about organization. That's what the thought process is. Emotions just come flying at you but this is the process in which you got to organize your thinking skills and this is what we want to spend a few minutes thinking about. See a lot of guys think without feeling, but a lot of guys don't organize the thought process well in their lives. If you're going to be a warrior, you have to know the balance. You have to know the one from the other.

Now consider this, number one. In order to do this, he evaluates his beliefs and chooses to follow the noble ones. He evaluates his beliefs and chooses to follow the noble beliefs. You see, I have a lot of beliefs and we'll talk later on this year about where we get some beliefs out of wrong sources, sort of maybe things that were taught us when we were young. But there's a lot of beliefs that come out of us, it's which one are noble. How do I know the difference between a noble and a non-noble one? For me, it's connected deeply to my relationship with God. For me it's based off of the word of God, the Bible. It tells me the truth that are noble versus the stuff that I like, you know I think might be a good idea.

There's beliefs that become. Now for you it could be a number of other sources but the fact is that a man has to take all of his beliefs and pull from them the noble ones because it's when you find those that you begin to do that which makes a difference. I will never celebrate the death of my enemy. What amazing statement. The enemy by very nature is trying to destroy and he's saying I won't celebrate it. Gentlemen, you're going to learn to find the noble beliefs within you. That's what using that part of the brain does, organizing, clear thoughts.

Number two. He establishes a realistic set of expectations for himself. He establishes a realistic set of expectations for himself. Consider this. I had a guy who was part of a leadership team that I was involved in and he had a great job opportunity and moved away and when he moved away to the opposite side of the country, his goal was then to buy a house, move his family with him, well through a whole series of things in our culture's economics, he couldn't see his house here and his family could not make the transition. He was deciding that he needs to come back because it was just putting his family at risk. He needs to let that job go when suddenly he's offered a better job and in being offered a better job, this better job is out there where he is, it's going to give him tremendous amount of more income, more responsibility, more freedom. It's everything he thinks it's going to be. He calls me up

and he says to me, now remember now, we want him to evaluate his beliefs and his expectations, and he says what should I do? And I ask him, what's his family going to do? And he said, well I think my family is going to remain where they are until we can figure this whole thing out and I said, so is there a chance that you will lose your family in this process and he stopped for a minute and he goes absolutely. He said I think it's going to tell you what to do. You're going to handle the expectation of more money, handle the expectation of more success, and begin to think a little bit differently. When he made that choice, when he made that decision, my leadership stock in him rose because he thought this is what's worth fighting the battle over versus other things.

Look at the next point, number four. Number three, excuse me. He decides what investments will define his life. You don't think that guy was deciding what investments – underline the word investments. See, I think we invest in a lot of stuff. I think at the end of our life, there's a lot of things that when we get to the end of our life we don't care about, even though we invested in it. You know, I have a lot of friends that have a lot of toys. The problem is, do you love your toys so much at the end of your life that fulfills you? Not necessarily. So you have to be careful what your investments are. A good thinking man will know that's worth the investment versus that which isn't. Remember last week we talked

about the fact that we're going to get involved in focusing on one vision, one area to fight and put our vision on that. Well let me say if you're going to change the world, you're going to learn what are good investments and not. So my friend comes back from the west coast and comes back and lives here because his family can't get out to him. He's saying that's what I want to invest in. It will help you. That's what your mind will help you to sort through.

Look at number four. He reflects on the feedback he receives concerning the direction of his decisions, those decisions are taking him. He reflects on the feedback, he reflects on what he's getting back so he can decide, okay which direction I am going to go in. Yitzhak Rabin, right? Yitzhak Rabin is a military leader and he's a political leader. He's trying to bring about peace. He's making that time of deep reflection between war and peace. It's that pressure that we always face. When you're dealing with something with you're a teenager, something's going on in their life and you got to decide how far to push this thing. It's that pressure between war and peace. When your wife has a spending problem, and you go, we can't keep letting this happen and we'll be okay, it's that pressure between war and peace. When you find yourself saying I got this physical ailment but I don't want to go to the doctor, it's that pressure between war and peace that we have to find the balance. This is all about balance. You want to change the world, balanced men change the

world. Extremes on either side don't do anything. If there's an extremist by their very nature, there are people who have pulled away. If there's somebody who doesn't care, then they are ignored, but when a person finds a balance between them, that which he thinks, that which he feels.

Look at number five. He judges the influence of others on his choices realistically. He judges the influences of others on his choices realistically. You see I think that we have to understand that there's commercials being thrown at us all the time and if you're going to make a thought, commercials will try to hit at your emotional base. The world in which we live is trying to sell us something so we have to decide am I buying it, right? So what we have to do is be very realistic, very realistic and understanding, is this that which I need to do or is that something that I just got that pull to do. Your ability to think allows you the freedom to say I'm going to back this down a little bit and work it out so I'm not driven and that's the way it works.

Look at number six. Number six gives you the opportunity to develop a clear set of personal goals with a plan to achievement. If you're going to graduate with us, you're going to need a set of personal goals, personal goals. We call it a knighthood plan. It allows you at the end of the year to just write down some things that you want to achieve. That's using the brain that thinks combined

with what's important, the brain that feels, putting that together, so putting those things together, finding that balance. So you want to take that which needs to be harnessed, our emotions and that which needs to be organized, that which is our thought process. When they come together, gentlemen, you change the world every time. You don't think Nathan before he walked in to David thought through both ends before he told the story that had emotion and all kinds of thought process and brought them together. It's that balance, a knight becomes such a strong, strong influence.

Look at the next one, number seven. He carefully considers what his life theme is in order to follow his calling. It's interesting that if I ask you what your life theme is, life theme, right, what is your life theme to establish your calling. What is it that you want to understand with that? You're going to find out that you have a particular area that you're targeting. Later on this year, we're going to find out what is, the best way to find out what your calling is and when you find out what your calling is, you want your calling to be of noble base, not just of what feels good for the moment and not just want somebody else told you it should be. This is where you start to make decisions based off of this is what I'm wired to be, who I'm wired to be and what I'm able to do. When you start to do that, you find a tremendous balanced man.

Look at number eight, the last one in this section. He reflects on who God is and is not, or is not with regard to his life and makes an honest faith choice. He looks at who God is or is not in their life and makes an honest faith choice. I got to be honest with you. God is huge in my life. Part of my core is my spirit brought alive by God. So I have this tremendous connection with Him because He has this tremendous connection. That's might not true for you. You might be sitting there going I don't even believe there is a God. It's going to have everything to do with how you build your faith system. It's going to have everything to do with how your belief system comes and it's all going to come out of this part of the brain that thinks or feels.

I was, I don't know when you're doing this. A lot of times guys start Warrior or Squire, we'll do Knights somewhere in the beginning of September and if so, you're right around of when we remember 9/11 and when 9/11 happened, it was one of those days when, it's a story to this day, you have that which you feel, that which you think and they come together, sometimes in balance, sometimes out. There was a movie that came out called "The World Trade Center". It was about 9/11 and when the buildings collapsed and it's really about a group of men who were Port Authority Police who were caught in the collapse on the bottom floor of one of the buildings, ended up in an elevator shaft, and it's actually a story where some

of the last few survivors of that horrific day. In the story, you have John McLoughlin who is a captain. You have Joe Schmarno who is with him. These are two guys that you'll discover alive inside the building. I want you to think about this scene with me. If you imagine what it's like, they're not trapped sort of underground in steel and fire and they can hear a few of their comrades in the dying process and they're trapped there. And when you pick it up on the scene, there's this amazing time when they're just trying to keep each other awake by telling each other stories, keeping each other focused. As they're trying to work this out and trying to survive, fading in and out of consciousness with all their injuries, it will be Will who will be told by John, keep snapping that pipe. There's a pipe above his head and keep snapping that pipe because it's the easiest way for somebody to hear us if they're looking. It's now night. They can't tell that, but there are two Marines by the name of Karnes and Thomas who are out looking for them and they find each other in the rubble as they're looking for survivors. Nobody else is allowed out that night. Everything is too unstable but these two Marines, not obeying anybody are out searching. They make a commitment to keep searching no matter who calls them back. And in their search process in the middle of the night, they hear the banging of the pipe and they find Will and John many, many feet down below. When Will yells up don't leave us. The Marine says,

leave you, we're going nowhere. You are our mission. What an amazing statement. When that scene that we all kind of respond to, we get it when somebody goes, you're our mission. It doesn't matter what somebody yells. It doesn't matter what somebody expects. I'm focused. I have my brain that thinks, my brain that feels. I've engaged and I'm making all the difference. What an amazing moment to know that somebody is so clear in their vision that they say you are my mission. You see I think that's when it comes to balance.

Let's take a look at what that balance looks like. Roman numeral three. A warrior learns to balance his thoughts and feelings and there's several things we're going to do to do that. He's going to learn to find the balance between these two areas. That's all we were talking about, right? This is when you've actually gotten it. You've gotten to that place where you have everything balanced.

Look at number one. He combines thoughtful decision-making with a passionate heart. He combines thoughtful decision making with passion. Isn't that cool? You think about those two things coming together. It is the balance so I have passion, feeling, and wise decision making. I am a Marine. I will not let you go. That's my job. Wise decision making but a lot of passion, a lot of that all coming together in that particular moment.

There's another part to it. Roman numeral two. He keeps his thinking fresh and challenges old patterns which assists him in pushing towards new achievements. He keeps his thinking fresh and challenges old patterns. You know what guys, we have become men who have a whole list of things we've thought through, but have you emotioned through them? Have you felt through them? Sometimes there's stuff that's still in existence in your life that are rooted in feelings you won't deal with and you have to break those patterns. When you find yourself in balance, you're willing to take that risk. We're going to really encourage you to take that risk this year. If you want to be a man who changes the world and it's not too late, trust me, it's not too late for a man to change this world. If you want to be that man, you're going to have to find this amazing balance between these two.

Look at number three. He shares with confidence in a relational way through story telling. The fastest way for you and I to get involved in doing this is through story telling. Write that down. Story telling is that ability to say I can, when I do it I'll paint a word picture of the facts while the emotional experience of hearing it. That's why we've lost the art. We watch movies for that very reason. It will teach us to feel and to think and when you tell your story, tell your story to your kids. Tell your story to your best friend. Tell your story to your parents. Tell your stories of what has happened in

your life in your journey. It will allow you to both have that which is concrete and that which is emotional, that which you feel and that which you think. When they come into balance, you begin to change the world. It's those things coming into balance.

There's actually one more thing. Look at this last one. Number four. He pursues his personal calling to reveal his uniqueness and impact on the forest. He's going to pursue his personal calling and I love this word, to reveal his uniqueness and impact upon the forest. It's at that moment when you realize that there is something that you're designed to do more than anybody else, you're designed to do it. And when you, when you find yourself in balance, then you have the best chance of taking the step to do that. You can imagine if you want to move in, you need to know what step to take and if you're out of balance, you'll move to the right or to the left. When you're balanced, you'll have a great idea.

So later on in the scene from the movie "The World Trade Center", we're now having the guys are being rescued. I want you to think about the emotion of this scene and the rescue that takes place. You'll see John and Will being brought up through all of the debris, being carried up on stretchers and when you get to the top and you see that, there's a long line of men that stream all the way down the debris of the building, all the way down to safety of a waiting ambulance, it literally seems like its hundreds of men long

as he's carrying it out. When John ends up in the hospital fighting for his life, his wife shows up at the hospital looking for him. You know what he says? You got me through it. You got me through it. I thought about you and thinking about you kept me alive and there's not a guy in the world that doesn't feel that emotion. So here, we bring all of this together. This amazing moment where two people are rescued in a scene from a movie that caused us to feel. It caused us to feel deeply because we all remembered the day and we have thoughts we have about it and we have feelings about it and we watch it come together and hope is burst out of all that debris.

It made me think of a story of Thomas Edison. Thomas Edison in I think it was like 1916 had a warehouse burn down in Orange, New Jersey. It actually contained everything he owned, all of his experiments, everything he had done. The value of the warehouse then was about two million dollars. He had it insured for about a quarter of a million because it was a concrete building, he was pretty confident it would never burn down. He's standing by the fire and his son comes along side of him and is just brokenhearted for his dad watching his life's work go up in flames at sixty-seven. And Thomas Edison turns to his son and says where's your mother? And he goes, I'm not sure and he says, go get her. She'll never see anything like this again, go get her and so Thomas Edison and his

wife stand and watch all of their work done. The next morning the son meets him to try to console him for the great loss and Thomas Edison says to him, you know what the greatest thing about this, when you have a fire like this, all of your failures go away and you get to start all over. You know it was two weeks later that he produced the first phonograph. Amazing man. You know why? Because he could feel – come and see the fire honey, you'll never experience anything like it. And he could think. All of my past has been removed and I can start all over.

Gentlemen, I don't know what you've been through. I don't know where you are. I don't know what's going on in the journey of your life at this particular moment but it's not too late for you to change the world. You can start over or you can keep going, just in balance. That which you think balances that which you feel. When those two things come together, gentlemen, knights, men, warriors, every time, change the world. Join us as we do so. See you next week.