



Passing the Torch

- I. Introduction. David was the best King to ever rule Israel. He was a man after God’s heart. Although he made some major mistakes, he walked with God all his life, and God blessed David and the nation of Israel because of David’s faithfulness. The book of 2 Samuel is the story of David’s Kingship. 1 Kings picks up the story at David’s last years and his turning of the Kingdom over to his son Solomon. In 1 Kings 2:1-3, David gave these instructions to Solomon: Be courageous, be an honorable man, and be obedient to God.
- II. Passing the Torch to the Next Generation
- A. Be courageous. One of the recurring comments in the Old Testament is “Do not fear; rather be courageous.” In the context of the Old Testament, courage is the opposite of fear. Courage is refusing to allow your fears to control you; it is addressing your fears in the context of faith and acting out of a place of faith instead of flesh. What are some examples of courageous faith by men in our culture? How do we grow in courage?
- B. Be a man- literally “prove yourself to be a man.” Several versions say, “show yourself a man.” The intent of this comment by David seems to be to live in such a way that you are fulfilling God’s design for you as a man. We might say “man up” in our culture. I like the phrase “be an honorable man.” How would you define an honorable man? Name 5 attributes of an honorable man in our culture:
1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
 5. _____
- Why did you choose these 5 attributes? Which of these attributes are easiest for you to live out consistently? Which are the hardest? What is the impact of an honorable man on his sphere of influence? What legacy would you like to leave to the next generation?
- C. Be obedient. David told Solomon to keep God’s commands and walk in God’s ways. The term walk indicates a consistent lifestyle of obedience. David is a good example of a man who walked in the ways of God. David sinned, but his lifestyle was one of surrender to the will of God for his life. Jesus said that if we love him, we will obey him. How does culture view obedience to truth? What does obedience to God reveal about us? What are your primary enemies of obedience to God?

- D. David told Solomon that if he acted like an honorable man, walked courageously before the Lord, and walked in obedience before God, then God would bless him in his life. The principle is the same today: God blesses honorable men. What are some ways God blesses Godly men for their faith in him? What is your takeaway from this study?