

HOW (NOT) TO BE A FIGHTER

Pastor Ta Tumu

Break the Ice.

- When is the best season to go on vacation (and where would you go for your next vacation)?

Scripture

2 Samuel 11:1-4 NIV, *In the spring, at the time when kings go off to war, David sent Joab out with the king's men and the whole Israelite army. They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained in Jerusalem. One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, "She is Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite." Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her ...*

Observe.

- What were kings supposed to do in the spring?
- The chapter begins with a season: *spring*. In the Middle Eastern cultures of those days, it was the season when kings went off to war. Israel was at war with the Ammonites (present day Jordan—fun fact: the capital of Jordan is called Amman, which reflects its past). Why was Israel at war with so many nations even many years after entering the Promised Land? Read Judges 3:1-4.
- Who did David send to lead the armies of Israel? How was he related to David? Read 1 Chronicles 2:13-17.
- In the middle of his boredom what did David do in verse 2?
- What did David find while he walked on his roof deck?
- How does the Bible describe Bathsheba?
- What did David end up doing?

Apply.

- What has stuck with you from the last two weeks of the I AM A FIGHTER series?
- In our present situation, is there a designated season for spiritual warfare? Read 1 Peter 5:8-9.
- Instead of leading his own army, like most kings would, David picked his best general, Joab who decimated the armies of Ammon. This means David had confidence in his men, but he also made a big mistake. It was a failure of leadership on his part. Why do you think did David decide to stay at home instead of fight? What makes you not want to do what God has called you to do? Name some distractions and emotional triggers that keep you from obedience?
- While we cannot know what David was feeling, we can assume that he felt lazy to go to war. This part of David's life is a classic example of how NOT to be a fighter. As a warrior king, his role is to lead his army, but his laziness led to distraction, which led to deceit and eventual defeat. Name some valuable lessons from this story. Read Proverbs 4:25, Hebrews 2:1, Psalm 101:3, 2 Timothy 2:4 .
- In Psalm 32:3-5, we read how David felt after this experience. When a fighter gets entangled in distractions, he or she ceases to function according to their purpose. The moment we stop fulfilling our purpose we begin to feel our life wasting away. Have you ever been in a place when you didn't feel like you had no purpose?
- What is the best way to regain our purpose as fighters? Read 2 Timothy 2:21-22.
- The quickest way how NOT to be a fighter is do exactly what David did. The best way to stay in the game, be the best fighter and experience constant victory is to not do what David did. What are some commitments you are willing to make so you can continue to grow as a fighter?

Pray.

- Ask for prayer requests related to your individual battles.

