

Pastor Allen with Special Guests, Chad Robichaux, Azizullah Aziz, and Kevin Weaver

World Outreach Church
Sermon Discussion Guide
Sunday Sermon: **April 30, 2023**



Pastor Allen shared the stage this weekend with men who have spent their lives in the military and serving those who serve in the military. You may have wondered why we would invite a group of military people to speak to us at church. Pastor Allen reminded us of some basic biblical facts of some of the heroes in scripture who were victorious warriors: Abraham, Moses, Joshua, and David to name a few. Jesus himself spoke about a Roman centurion in Capernaum and said he hadn't found anyone in Israel that understands faith and the authority of God like this Roman soldier does. We can all learn about honor and duty and respect and courage from people who have served in the military.

Chad Robichaux a former recon Marine spoke about the incredible rescue missions that evacuated not only his long-time friend and interpreter, Aziz, but also more than 17,000 Afghans and allies who were left in the violent Taliban regime as the United States military withdrew from Afghanistan. Chad founded the Mighty Oaks Foundation, a leading non-profit, serving the active duty, military veteran and first responder communities around the world with highly successful faith-based combat trauma and resiliency programs.

Azizullah Aziz is an Afghan native who served as a combat interpreter and facilitator for the United States Special Operations community during military operations in Afghanistan. For nearly a decade, he also served as part of the premiere Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC). Following a daring rescue mission after the US withdrawal out of Afghanistan led by Robichaux, Aziz now lives in Texas and serves as the cultural advisor for Mighty Oaks International.

Kevin Weaver is President, CEO, and Co-Founder of The Warrior's Journey. The Warrior's Journey provides resources, services, and individualized support to thousands of veterans and active service members around the world with the goal of healing invisible wounds. He is a military veteran of the U.S. Air Force.

- 1) **What is your definition of a hero?**
- 2) **What is something you would say you have sacrificed in your life? What did that mean for you? Were you changed by the sacrifice that you made?**
- 3) **Have you ever witnessed a miracle? How did it impact your faith?**
- 4) **When do you find yourself complaining the most? What are some practical ways you can use your faith in the Lord to help you minimize complaining?**

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank you. Thank you for the men and women who are willing to stand in difficult places and do difficult things on behalf of those who lack the strength or the power for themselves. I thank you for your church in the earth, for the great price you have paid that we might be set free from the bondage of sin. May we never presume upon and take for granted or treat that with disrespect. May we choose to lead lives that honor you and the sacrifices you have made for us. In so doing, may we be willing to lead lives that will bring that freedom and liberty to others. Forgive us for when we've been silent, when we have yielded to fear, when we have either been unwilling or just disinterested. We offer ourselves today as living sacrifices. May you be pleased with us in Jesus' name, amen.