

Legacy

Challenge: Alexander III of Macedon (July 356 BC – June 323 BC) is better known as Alexander the Great. He was undefeated in battle and is widely considered to have been one of the greatest military commanders of all time. By the age of 30 his empire had expanded to be one of the largest of the ancient world. Legend has it that Alexander gave 3 requests to his generals upon his death 1) the best doctors should carry his coffin 2) all his money should be scattered along his funeral procession 3) his hands should hang loose outside of his coffin for all to see. Confused by the request, they asked him to explain. He replied, I want the best doctors carrying me to demonstrate that even they do not have the power to heal. I want my money scattered to show that wealth acquired on earth, will stay on earth. And I want my hands to swing in the wind so all will see that I came into this world with empty hands and I leave it with empty hands. We all too only have one life to live and it will quickly pass. What will you leave behind that will truly last?

No one on their deathbed is worried about how they did in a game, on a test, or how much money they made. They care about relationships, and who they have become as a person. People will forget all your individual stats and your team's win/loss records, but they will remember whether you treated them with class. Don't compromise making poor decisions because they will have a ripple effect in your life and those around you.

Questions to consider:

Are people more talkers or doers?

If the game of life ended tonight, would you be a winner?

What do you want to be remembered for?

What type of legacy do you want to leave?

What's going on: Jesus had prepared His disciples for what was to come in Jerusalem (suffering and death). Peter's expectations however differed from Jesus' mission. Peter takes Jesus to the side to rebuke Him, but Jesus calls Peter out and corrects him. Peter had overstepped his bounds and his personal feelings for Jesus were super ceding God's plan of redemption. Jesus follows up with His disciples and explains what it truly means to be His disciples. There must be a decisive act to follow Jesus and a turning away from self-centered living to selflessness (2 Timothy 2:2; I John 3:16).

Game Time: Matthew 16:24-28

1. What is required for us to be followers of Jesus?
2. What are you living for, eternal things or temporal things?
3. How does the prospect of rewards motivate you when you stand before God?

Key Verse: "...Matthew 16:26, "...what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul?"

Anchors to remember:

- Make decisions based on the eternal rather than on the temporal