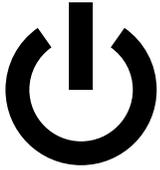


Title: Stop Watching, Start Doing

Speaker: EJ Swanson

Key Verses: 1 Samuel 14:1-23

Summary: God does not want us on the sidelines but doing something for Him.



Power Up: Take a moment to prepare

EJ describes a massive shift in his Christian life, where he left the platform and start living out his faith. When did God last ask you to make a shift?



Replay: Take some time to watch

Note the three types of people EJ describes from 1 Samuel 14: **1)** Saul, sitting on the sideline; **2)** Jonathan, taking the lead against the Philistines; **3)** an unnamed armor-bearer, helping Jonathan in battle.



Comment: Take some time to talk

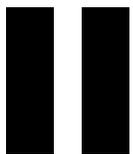
EJ calls Saul “the one guy who could do something” to defend Israel. Sadly, he does nothing. ***What likely motivated Saul to stay on the sidelines?***

“Jonathan steps up...becomes a leader,” EJ notes. ***How important is initiative to leadership? How critical is planning to leadership? What other leadership qualities does Jonathan demonstrate?***

EJ suggests comfort is an enemy to active faith. ***Agree or disagree? Where are you too comfortable in your faith?***

What role does the armor-bearer play to Jonathan’s success? What is the attitude of the armor-bearer toward Jonathan? What are some modern-day examples of armor-bearers in the church?

Of the three characters in the narrative, which best reflects you? Based upon your response, what is God asking you to do?



Pause: Take a moment to pray

Ask God for a better prayer life. Tell Him you want to want Him more. Ask for His joy, presence, favor, pleasure, fruit and the rest of the buffet.



Take Action: Take a step forward

Prayer happens when we prioritize it. Make a point to set aside five minutes, undistracted (i.e. NO phone) at the beginning and end of each day to talk with God. Use Jesus’ prayer as a launching point (Matthew 6:9-13). A prayer journal or prayer partner may help you stay consistent.

Bonus Features | Additional Notes and Quotes from EJ Swanson

Power Track Summary: God has given His followers a unique calling and gifting to be used by His Spirit to change the world. But so many of us look at today's problems and slowly become paralyzed and desensitized. *Stop Watching, Start Doing* is a practical, biblical guide to help you find your spiritual gifting and calling, as well as the place where God wants to use you to change someone's world.

About the Speaker: EJ Swanson is a Detroit native, father, husband, ministry coach, and Christian speaker who wanted to come off the platform and start living for Jesus.

3 Types of People from 1 Samuel 14

- **Saul on the Sidelines:** The one guy who could do something was sitting under the tree.
- **Jonathan the Leader:** Jonathan says, who knows, perhaps the Lord will save us. Nothing can hinder the Lord from doing what He intends.
- **The Unnamed Armor-bearer:** He says to Jonathan, "Go and do what you say. I am with you heart and soul."

God doesn't call us to be comfortable. He calls us to *do something* with our faith: to put our faith into action.

"Let's start a company," EJ implores his wife. They sell watches and give \$14k to missions in a couple years. When EJ asks his wife to speak with him, she replies, "I'm the armor-bearer. Shut up."

Isaiah 50:7

"You don't all have to be leaders. Every leader needs a follower. You know what every leader needs more than a follower? An armor-bearer."

Leaders would be more effective with active armor-bearers at their side.

God gets the credit at the end.

"Are you going to sit under the tree, get up and do something, or help others who are doing it?"

"The concept isn't come up with a really good plan, work it, and win. If that's the concept, then Jonathan would have failed."

"Jonathan paved the pathway for God to do some absolutely amazing things."

"The first point of action that makes all of this possible is the cross. If you don't have a relationship with Jesus, then all your labor is in vain." Our leadership or help as an armor-bearer does not get us into heaven.