



Action Figure



As a boy I remember having several G. I. Joe action figures. Since boys don't play with dolls they created action figures just for us. I recall many times taking over the living room floor as my brother, along with my best friend and neighbor Joe, conducted all sorts of exciting maneuvers and adventures with our men. It was great fun. Of course we never got excited about putting our G. I. Joes back in their boxes and gazing at them sitting on a shelf. The point of an action figure is having it active.

The Bible is full of many men and women who were active for God. But recently, on Sunday nights, we've been studying the life of King Hezekiah. He's not so famous or well known yet he was one of Judah's greatest and godliest kings (see II Kings 18:1-6) and also extremely active.

In II Chronicles 31:20-21 we read, "Thus Hezekiah did throughout all Judah; and he did what was good, right and true before the LORD his God. Every work which he began in the service of the house of God in law and in commandment, seeking his God, he did with all his heart and prospered." Two great characteristics that Hezekiah demonstrates are purpose and passion.

We note in verse twenty-one that what Hezekiah did, he did before the Lord his God. He knew that God was observing and inspecting and Hezekiah's purpose was to please Him. Therefore the things he did were approved by God (good), acceptable to God (right) and faithful to God (true). Hezekiah was motivated by an audience of one, and that One was whom he sought to please.

The other striking quality about Hezekiah is his passion. II Chronicles 31:21 indicates that every work he began he did with all his heart. Publically he did much for the House of God. He cleansed and restored the Temple (II Chronicles 29), reinstated the Pass-over and other feasts (II Chronicles 30) and made sure that God's workers were properly cared for (II Chronicles 31). But that's not all, for we read too that privately he sought God in law and commandment. He was committed to the correct observation and personal application of God's Word.

Oh that we might be active like Hezekiah! My prayer is that whatever we do we do it heartily as to the Lord (Colossians 3:23). Might we demonstrate passion and purpose in our service to God.

Looking Up!

Pastor Chuck Circle