The Need for Strong Men

1 Kings 2:1-4 (NIV)

When the time drew near for David to die, he gave a charge to Solomon his son. "I am about to go the way of all the earth," he said. "So be strong, act like a man, and observe what the Lord your God requires: Walk in obedience to him, and keep his decrees and commands, his laws and regulations, as written in the Law of Moses. Do this so that you may prosper in all you do and wherever you go and that the Lord may keep his promise to me: 'If your descendants watch how they live, and if they walk faithfully before me with all their heart and soul, you will never fail to have a successor on the throne of Israel.'

I. Strong men must learn to face the reality of their own mortality.
1 Kings 2:1-2 (GNT) says, *"When David was about to die, he called his son Solomon and gave him his last instructions: "My time to die has come," he said."*

When a strong man accepts his mortality, he must choose to live everyday ready to stand before God one day.
Consider *Matthew 25:1-13*

Strong men must also prepare the next generation for how to continue on after he is gone.
Proverbs 22:6 (NKJV) says, *"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."*

II. Strong men must charge their children to be strong like them, while teaching them where their strength really comes from.
1 Kings 2:2 says, *"So be strong, act like a man,"*

Strong men must teach their children the necessity of having a strong prayer life.

Matthew 26:41 (TLB) says, *"Keep alert and pray. Otherwise temptation will overpower you. For the spirit indeed is willing, but how weak the body is!"*

Strong men must teach our children the importance of having strength of character.
Proverbs 10:9 (NIV) says, *"Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but whoever takes crooked paths will be found out."*

III. Strong men walk in obedience to God and His commandments.
1 Kings 1:3 (NIV) says, *"and observe what the Lord your God requires: Walk in obedience to him, and keep his decrees and commands, his laws and regulations, as written in the Law of Moses."*

Obeying God's commands will bring God's blessings to a strong man's life.
1 Kings 2:3c (NIV) says, *"Do this so that you may prosper in all you do and wherever you go"*

Deuteronomy 28:1-2 (NIV) says, *"If you fully obey the Lord your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations on earth. 2 All these blessings will come on you and accompany you if you obey the Lord your God:"*

When a strong man models obedience to God, there is generational impact for the family.
1 Kings 2:4 (NIV) says, *"If you do this, then the Lord will keep the promise He made to me. He told me, 'If your descendants live as they should and follow me faithfully with all their heart and soul, one of them will always sit on the throne of Israel.'"*

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