

CrossWalk NOTES

Families on the E.D.G.E.

God's Help for Families in an Over-Committed, Stressed-Out, On-the-Edge World

Ego

February 24, 2008 – Jeff Gunn

¹⁶Now two prostitutes came to the king and stood before him. ¹⁷One of them said, "My lord, this woman and I live in the same house. I had a baby while she was there with me. ¹⁸The third day after my child was born, this woman also had a baby. We were alone; there was no one in the house but the two of us.

¹⁹"During the night this woman's son died because she lay on him. ²⁰So she got up in the middle of the night and took my son from my side while I your servant was asleep. She put him by her breast and put her dead son by my breast. ²¹The next morning, I got up to nurse my son—and he was dead! But when I looked at him closely in the morning light, I saw that it wasn't the son I had borne."

²²The other woman said, "No! The living one is my son; the dead one is yours."

But the first one insisted, "No! The dead one is yours; the living one is mine." And so they argued before the king.

²³The king said, "This one says, 'My son is alive and your son is dead,' while that one says, 'No! Your son is dead and mine is alive.'"

²⁴Then the king said, "Bring me a sword." So they brought a sword for the king. ²⁵He then gave an order: "Cut the living child in two and give half to one and half to the other."

²⁶The woman whose son was alive was filled with compassion for her son and said to the king, "Please, my lord, give her the living baby! Don't kill him!"

But the other said, "Neither I nor you shall have him. Cut him in two!"

²⁷Then the king gave his ruling: "Give the living baby to the first woman. Do not kill him; she is his mother."

²⁸When all Israel heard the verdict the king had given, they held the king in awe, because they saw that he had wisdom from God to administer justice. (1 Kings 3:16-28, NIV).

- ✓ "Go for the gusto! Waiting around is for losers."
- ✓ "Take! Don't give. Life never gives you anything."
- ✓ "Lie! Don't tell the truth. The truth is for suckers."
- ✓ "Cover it up! People are hypocrites anyway."
- ✓ "If I go down, you're going down with me!"

¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. ¹⁴But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. ¹⁵Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, of the devil. ¹⁶For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice. (James 3:13-16, NIV)

1. _____ leads us into the heart of darkness.

- ✓ Seek _____!
- ✓ Seek greatness through _____!
- ✓ Seek wisdom through _____!

¹¹So God said to him, "Since you have asked for this and not for long life or wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for discernment in administering justice, ¹²I will do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be. (1 Kings 3:11-12, NIV)

2. _____ leads us into the heart of greatness.

My next steps in the "Cross-Walk":

- Seek greatness God's way. With God, the way up is down. A great family starts with humble hearts.
- Tap into God's grace. The more grace we receive, the more we give.
- Meditate on and memorize 1 Kings 3:11-12.