

SUMMER AT THE MOVIES

The Avengers

THREE KEY THEMES OF THE AVENGERS INFINITY WAR

A. Classic movie themes

1. Conflict: The epic battle between good and evil - key word is opposition
2. Sacrifice: Something surrendered or lost in order to gain an objective
3. Resolve: To settle conclusively, decide, firmness of purpose

B. Classic Christian life themes

1. Conflict: We face opposition both spiritually and naturally
2. Sacrifice: The ultimate sacrifice was made by Jesus
3. Resolve: Living for God requires quality decisions and firmness of purpose
4. We, as do the Avengers, have an advantage **(*Philippians 4:11-13 NIV*)**

BIBLICAL EXAMPLE OF CONFLICT, SACRIFICE AND RESOLVE (*1 Samuel 23:1-5 NIV*)

A. Conflict

1. This fight did not directly involve David
2. His concern was for God's people being robbed and frightened

B. Sacrifice

1. David and his men had to surrender a place of relative safety to help Keilah
2. The natural inclination was to protect and survive - David was willing to give that up

C. Resolve

1. David was making an "informed" decision - praying about his involvement
2. Was willing to pray again - and with strengthened resolve he engaged in the conflict

CONFLICT, SACRIFICE AND RESOLVE IN OUR LIVES TODAY

A. There is conflict in following God and living a Christian life

1. Societal: Pressure/opposition to not stand for Biblical values
2. Community: Pressure/opposition from family and friend peers
3. Personal: **(*Ephesians 6:10-13 NIV*)**

B. Sacrifice is involved in living for God

1. Societal: Being identified as a believer ignorant, intolerant a hate monger
2. Community: Facing the disapproval of friends and family
3. Personal: Saying no to the thoughts and desires of the flesh **(*Romans 12:1 NIV*)**

C. Resolve: We have a supernatural source of strength and make informed decisions

1. God's word can feed and strengthen our inner man
2. God's Holy Spirit lives in us and strengthens us **(*1 John 4:4 NIV*)**