

Decision 2:

Protect the Vulnerable

BIG IDEA

“The people in your neighborhood, at your school, or at your workplace should be safer because you’re there. Even if they don’t know it.” (p80)

HUDDLE UP

Have you ever personally witnessed an act of courage? Who did it, and why?

Do you think of yourself as someone who provides safety to others? Why or why not?

What does it take to be a good protector?

FROM DECISION 2

“So use your power, your athleticism, and your God-given drive to do something. Use it to defend people, not threaten them.” (p81)

“Even if you’re like me and not physically intimidating, it can be very effective to speak up. It’s remarkable how quickly some people will back down if anyone—anyone at all—challenges them.” (p81)

“If you don’t do something, don’t just assume it will get done. Your life is deeply meaningful, one way or another. Your efforts matter. Your work matters. You’re the only one uniquely placed in your position in the world. . . . Yes, God wants it done, and yes, he has the power to do it. That’s why he put *you* there.” (p88-89)

“A good father provides shelter—physically, emotionally, psychologically, and spiritually. If you’re a wise father who loves your children, you will shelter them.” (p95)

“You and I don’t have to fit the stereotypes of what manly men look or sound like. What we do need to do is use whatever we have as great keepers of the garden to defend the defenseless.” (p108)

KEY QUESTION

Who are the vulnerable people around you, and are they safer because you're near?

NEXT STEPS

In your area of growth (see "GOOD WORK" section, page 10) what is one thing you can do to "protect the vulnerable"?

"Make it Stick" Tip...

When we're midstream in any endeavor, it can be easy to lose our initial excitement or motivation. Remind yourself why you are pursuing the goals by envisioning what it will be like later. "In 10 weeks, I will be really glad I..." think of things down the road to help you stay committed today.

PRAYERS / NOTES FOR NEXT TIME

**What prayers or thoughts do you have in this area of your life?
How can this group help you?**