

Defeating Your Giants

Heroes of Faith – Part 3 (1 Samuel 17:1-58)

Life Church St. Louis – May 27, 2012

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James 1:2-4 (NIV) Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

1 Samuel 17:4-7 (NIV) A champion named Goliath, who was from Gath, came out of the Philistine camp. He was over nine feet tall. He had a bronze helmet on his head and wore a coat of scale armor of bronze weighing five thousand shekels; on his legs he wore bronze greaves, and a bronze javelin was slung on his back. His spear shaft was like a weaver's rod, and its iron point weighed six hundred shekels. His shield bearer went ahead of him.

1. _____ to face your giant

1 Samuel 17:23 (NIV) As he was talking with them, Goliath, the Philistine champion from Gath, stepped out from his lines and shouted his usual defiance, and David heard it.

A. Don't follow the _____

1 Samuel 17:24 (NIV) When the Israelites saw the man, they all ran from him in great fear.

B. See the big _____

1 Samuel 17:26 (NIV) David asked the men standing near him, "What will be done for the man who kills this Philistine and removes this disgrace from Israel? Who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?"

2. _____ the naysayers

A. Some will question your _____

1 Samuel 17:28 (NIV) When Eliab, David's oldest brother, heard him speaking with the men, he burned with anger at him and asked, "Why have you come down here? And with whom did you leave those few sheep in the desert? I know how conceited you are and how wicked your heart is; you came down only to watch the battle."

B. Some will question your _____

1 Samuel 17:33 (NIV) Saul replied, "You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him; you are only a boy, and he has been a fighting man from his youth."

3. _____ for conflict

A. Remember God's _____ help

1 Samuel 17:34-37 (NIV) But David said to Saul, "Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine."

B. Use what God has _____ you

1 Samuel 17:40 (NIV) Then he took his staff in his hand, chose five smooth stones from the stream, put them in the pouch of his shepherd's bag and, with his sling in his hand, approached the Philistine.

4. _____ the victory

A. Go in the Lord's _____

1 Samuel 17:45 (NIV) David said to the Philistine, "You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.

B. Go in the Lord's _____

1 Samuel 17:47 (NIV) All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves; for the battle is the LORD's, and he will give all of you into our hands."

C. See your giant _____

1 Samuel 17:49 (NIV) Reaching into his bag and taking out a stone, he slung it and struck the Philistine on the forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell facedown on the ground.

Defeating Your Giants – Study Guide

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Intro. What is the biggest giant in your life standing between you and God's future for you?

Why does God allow giants (enemies) to come into our lives (James 1:2-4)?

Do you think the giants get smaller or bigger the longer a person walks with God? Why?

1. Why is following the crowd generally not a good idea when facing a giant (1 Samuel 17:23-24)?

What do David's questions in 1 Samuel 17:26 reveal about his thinking that is different from the rest of the Israelites?

In what ways could your thinking about your giant benefit from following David's example?

2. Why did David's older brother question his motives (1 Samuel 17:28)?

How could Saul's questioning of David's ability have affected David (1 Samuel 17:33)?

What kinds of thoughts and words must you learn to resist?

3. What principle can you learn about preparing for conflict with a giant from David's response to Saul in 1 Samuel 17:34-37?

Why is it important to trust and use what God has taught you in the past as you prepare for conflict (1 Samuel 17:39-40)?

4. What did David mean when he said "I come against you in the name of the Lord" (1 Samuel 17:45)?

In what ways was David trusting in the Lord's power to defeat the giant (1 Samuel 17:46-47)?

How can you face your giant in the Lord's name and power?