

# Community Group Discussion Questions

“The Sling and a Stone 1 Samuel 17 July 8/9

## Getting Started

Everyone loves an underdog story, but what if I were to tell you that the narrative of David versus Goliath is not an underdog story? Would you believe it? Today, it is our hope that whatever has set itself as a GIANT in your life will fall and be defeated not because of you trying to be David, but instead being confident in the God of David.

What are some of the GIANT'S in your life right now? Where do you feel overpowered, hopeless, and afraid?

## Going Deeper

As you stare your Giant(s) down in a valley of decision you must know these 5 stones of promise:

- I. There's a Cause that's Bigger: 1 Samuel 17:24-27
  - A. Reproach of Man: fled from him, and were much afraid (24)  
Vs.
  - B. Reward of God: who is this uncircumcised Philistine...? (26)

God will reward all of those who stand boldly for His name and for righteousness. Take a minute and come up with a list of people or groups from history who have taken a stand for God's name and the cause of righteousness. (*possible answers*: The signers of the Declaration of Independence, Abraham Lincoln, Prohibitionists, Women's right to vote, Civil Rights movement, etc.) Now, can you think of any cause God wants you to take a stand for? Is there anything He has been putting on your heart?

- II. There's a Confidence that's Braver: 1 Samuel 17:32-37
  - A. Field Experience: you are but a youth (33)

Vs.

B. Faith Expression: the Lord who delivered me...will (37)

Too often, we turn down opportunities to do something great because we fear we don't have the experience, but how will we ever get experience if we don't get started somewhere? Notice that David has already seen the Lord deliver him from danger in his past. He was willing to go out in the wilderness alone to guard the sheep, and was exposed to great danger from the lion and the bear. It was his earlier acts of personal courage and dependence on the Lord that prepared him for this challenge by Goliath. **Where have you stepped out in courageous faith in your past? Where has God shown Himself faithful to you?**

III. There's a Capability that's Better: 1 Samuel 17:38-40

A. Saul's Armor: Then Saul clothed David with his armor (38)

Vs.

B. David's Appeal: for I have not tested them (39)

*Note:* Armor Bearer, Come to Me, Sticks (43) = Acromegaly/Blurry Vision

We should never try to battle evil in our own power or by using someone else's methods. The one thing David knew for sure was "The battle belongs to the Lord." Read Ephesians 6:10-18. **What do you observe about the armor of the Lord?**

IV. There's a Champion that's Bolder: 1 Samuel 17:50-52

A. God Reigns Immortal: stood over the Philistine (51)

Vs.

B. Giant Ranked Invincible: their champion was dead (51)

**Read** 1 Corinthians 15:53-57. Jesus has conquered death and the grave. **Read** Matthew 10:28. Evil people may take our life, but only the Lord has power over our eternal soul and only the Lord can raise us from the dead and give us eternal life in a new, sinless body.

If this is true, is there anything or anyone on this earth we should be afraid of?

V. There's a Challenger in the Bleachers: 1 Samuel 17:53-54

A. Trophy of Glory: plundered the camp (53)

Vs.

B. Testimony of Grace: put his armor in the tent (54)

What Saul would not do in his fear, David did in the confidence of the Lord. This is the beginning of David's triumph over Saul as king. When we walk in courageous confidence in our Lord, we too will walk in victory and plunder the camp of the enemy. What are some of the trophies of grace God has blessed you with? What victories over sin and circumstances have you seen?

TAKE AWAY: YOUR "SO CALLED" DISADVANTAGES CAN CREATE DISTINCTIONS AND YOUR ADVANTAGE IS FOUND IN HIS ASSURANCE.

5 WORDS OVER THESE 5 PROMISES TODAY:

THE BATTLE IS THE LORD'S (v. 47)

### **Group Prayer Requests**

Pray for the safety of our Law Enforcement officers and all first responders.