

**The Big Picture: Finding Jesus in the Old Testament:**  
**Week 9 – David & Goliath: More Than Facing Your Giants**

*1 Samuel 17*

**Opening Prayer:**

Gracious God, As we gather to study Your Word, open our hearts and minds to Your truth. Help us see Jesus more clearly in the story of David and Goliath, and remind us that our hope is found not in our own strength, but in Christ, our Champion. Guide our discussion and draw us closer to You and to one another. Amen.

**Theme:**

David and Goliath is one of the most familiar stories in the Bible, yet it is often misunderstood. Rather than simply teaching us to be courageous like David, this story points us to God's greater plan of redemption. David served as Israel's champion, fighting the battle the people could not fight for themselves. In the same way, Jesus Christ became our Champion, defeating sin, death, and evil on our behalf. This week we'll discover what it means to live, not trying to earn victory, but living from the victory Christ has already won.

**Secular Quote:**

*"Courage is not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it."*  
— Nelson Mandela

**Starter Question:**

What is one challenge you've faced that seemed overwhelming at first, but turned out to be much smaller than you expected?

**Digging Deeper Questions:**

**Read 1 Samuel 17:1–11**

- What emotions do you think the Israelites experienced as they watched Goliath each day?
- Why do you think fear kept the army from acting?

**Read 1 Samuel 17:32–47**

- How was David's perspective different from everyone else's?
- What do David's words reveal about where he placed his confidence?

- Have you ever experienced a time when trusting God changed the way you viewed a difficult situation?

**Read Hebrews 2:14–15**

- How does Jesus resemble David in this passage?
- Who or what are the "greater giants" Jesus defeated through His death and resurrection?

**Reflect**

The sermon suggested that we are not David—we are the Israelites who needed a champion.

- How does that change the way you read this story?
- Why is it good news that our salvation depends on Christ's victory rather than our own strength?
- What difference does it make to know we fight **from** victory instead of **for** victory?

**Actionable of the Week:**

Choose one area this week where you've been relying on your own strength instead of trusting Christ.

Each morning, begin your day by praying:

"Jesus, You are my Champion. Help me live today in the victory You have already won."

Then intentionally encourage someone who may be facing a "giant" of their own with a word of hope, a prayer, or a simple act of kindness.

**Closing Prayer:**

Lord Jesus, Thank You for being our Champion and fighting the battle we could never win on our own. Help us trust in Your strength instead of ours, live confidently in Your victory, and encourage others with the hope we have in You. May our lives reflect the courage that comes from knowing You are always with us. Amen.

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## Monday

### **1 Samuel 17:1–11**

**Focus:** The Giant Appears

Begin the week by reading about the challenge Israel faced and consider how fear can keep us from trusting God's promises.

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## Tuesday

### **1 Samuel 17:32–47**

**Focus:** Trusting God Above All

Notice where David places his confidence—not in himself, but in the Lord. Ask yourself where you need to rely more fully on God's strength.

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## Wednesday

### **Psalms 27:1–6**

**Focus:** The Lord Is My Light and My Salvation

Reflect on David's words later in life and be reminded that the Lord is greater than every fear.

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## Thursday

### **Romans 8:31–39**

**Focus:** More Than Conquerors

Celebrate the victory Christ has already won and rejoice that nothing can separate us from the love of God.

## Friday

### **Hebrews 2:14–18**

**Focus:** Our Greater Champion

See how Jesus defeated sin and death through His own death and resurrection, accomplishing what we never could.

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## Saturday

### **Ephesians 6:10–18**

**Focus:** Standing Firm in Christ

Prepare your heart for worship by putting on the full armor of God, remembering that our strength comes from the Lord and that we stand in the victory Christ has already secured.

### **Memory Verse for the Week:**

*"You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty..."*

— **1 Samuel 17:45**