

# Battling Your Giants

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## Introduction:

David was a shepherd boy. He was just a teenager who took care of sheep. In fact even his own family thought so little of him, that when the prophet Samuel came to anoint one of the boys as the next king of Israel, his dad almost forgot to tell him that one of his sons, David, was still out in the field. By most people's standards, David would not have qualified as a mighty warrior. He was seen as just a boy, one that smelled like the animals he cared for.

His dad, Jesse, sends him to the front lines to take his older brothers some food. When he gets there he finds that his brothers and the rest of the Israelite army aren't doing any fighting at all. They're just standing around in fear of a giant that threatened to whoop up on them. This is where our story begins.

## 1 Samuel 17:20-24

*Early in the morning David left the flock with a shepherd, loaded up and set out, as Jesse had directed. He reached the camp as the army was going out to its battle positions, shouting the war cry. [21] Israel and the Philistines were drawing up their lines facing each other. [22] David left his things with the keeper of supplies, ran to the battle lines and greeted his brothers. [23] 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. [24] When the Israelites saw the man, they all ran from him in great fear.*

His Defiance:

## 1 Samuel 17:8-11

*Goliath stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, "Why do you come out and line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not the servants of Saul? Choose a man and have him come down to me. [9] If he is able to fight and kill me, we will become your subjects; but if I overcome him and kill him, you will become our subjects and serve us." [10] Then the Philistine said, "This day I defy the ranks of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other." [11] On hearing the Philistine's words, Saul and all the Israelites were dismayed and terrified.*

Why was the army so afraid of Goliath??

**David's Giant:**

**1 Samuel 17:4-7 (NASB)**

*Then a champion came out from the armies of the Philistines named Goliath, from Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span. [5] And he had a bronze helmet on his head, and he was clothed with scale-armor which weighed five thousand shekels of bronze. [6] He also had bronze greaves on his legs and a bronze javelin slung between his shoulders. [7] And the shaft of his spear was like a weaver's beam, and the head of his spear weighed six hundred shekels of iron; his shield-carrier also walked before him.*

-Goliath was nine feet, nine inches tall. He wore bronze armor and he carried a spear the size of a weaver's beam. He had been a warrior from his youth and he was daring one man to come and fight him. If that one man loses all the Israelite army would be their servants. So, they had reason to be afraid, didn't they?

**Our Giants:**

-Today we don't go up against 9 ft 9 inch tall giants. Philistines are really not our biggest threat. But we each have giants we face in our lives.

What are some giants teenagers face today???

Peer-Pressure, Fear, Unbelief, etc...

**Fear** is one of the biggest Giants that we face. The giant of fear will try to overwhelm us and make us think we can't do it. Fear will try to keep us from sharing our faith with other people. How many times did you think about telling someone about Jesus, but then you were afraid of what they might think of you???

Fear stopped the Israelite army from making any attempt at killing Goliath. Fear will stop us too, if we let it.

-So here stands this big, mean Giant. What happens next??

**David steps up:**

This is where David, the shepherd boy, makes history.

**1 Samuel 17:32-37**

*David said to Saul, "Let no one lose heart on account of this Philistine; your servant will go and fight him."*

*[33] 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."*

*[34] 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,*

*[35] 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. [36] 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.*

*[37] 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."*

*Saul said to David, "Go, and the Lord be with you."*

In Vs. 33 Saul tells David, "No way kid. You can't win this. You're too young, you're not trained in battle, and the Giant is too big. The enemy you are about to face is too big for you to handle. You'll get wiped out." But David doesn't let that faze him. David understands something that Saul does not. David knows the power of His God. Look at VS 37. David knew that it was not about his strength or ability. David knew with God on his side He was sure to win the battle.

### **Romans 8:31**

*What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us?*

So David knew His God and was sure of his victory.

### **1 Samuel 17:40-51**

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.

[41] Meanwhile, the Philistine, with his shield bearer in front of him, kept coming closer to David. [42] He looked David over and saw that he was only a boy, ruddy and handsome, and he despised him. [43] He said to David, "Am I a dog, that you come at me with sticks?" And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. [44] "Come here," he said, "and I'll give your flesh to the birds of the air and the beasts of the field!"

[45] 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. [46] This day the Lord will hand you over to me, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head.

Today I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds of the air and the beasts of the earth, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. [47] 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."

[48] As the Philistine moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet him. [49] 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.

[50] So David triumphed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone; without a sword in his hand he struck down the Philistine and killed him.

[51] David ran and stood over him. He took hold of the Philistine's sword and drew it from the scabbard. After he killed him, he cut off his head with the sword.

When the Philistines saw that their hero was dead, they turned and ran.

### **Conclusion:**

-A teenager named David whooped a huge, raging Giant. He won because he knew his God and knew that God was on his side.

-Since God is on our side, we can beat any giant that comes against us!!! We need not let the giants of fear, insecurity, peer-pressure, or any other hold us back. If we know our God, and His awesome power, than we know that we are victors. God can overcome fear in our lives if we trust in Him. We need not be afraid. God is bigger than any giant we face!! We will beat the giants in our lives, if we trust in Him.