

IN THE

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David Fights Goliath

1 Samuel 17:30-51 ESV

- David, undeterred by his brother's criticism, continues asking about Goliath's challenge until word reaches King Saul.
- Brought before the king, David boldly volunteers to fight the Philistine.
- Though Saul doubts him, David recounts how he's killed lions & bears while protecting his sheep, trusting that the same God who delivered him then will do so again.

1 Samuel 17:30-51 ESV

- Rejecting Saul's armor, David instead chooses five smooth stones and his sling.
- As he approaches, Goliath mocks him, but David responds with one of the most powerful declarations of faith in Scripture: "You come to me with a sword and with a spear... but I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts."
- He proclaims that the battle belongs to God.

1 Samuel 17:30-51 ESV

- With a single stone from his sling, David strikes Goliath in the forehead, felling the giant.
- He then uses Goliath's own sword to kill & behead him.
- The Philistines flee in terror & Israel surges forward in victory.

The Point

Jesus is the greater David. He stands in our place and puts to death once and for all our greatest giant, our own sin.

We don't need a cheerleader to pump us up, we need a champion that can do what we can't.

A photograph of a gravel path that curves through a wooded area. The trees are mostly bare, suggesting a late autumn or winter setting. The path is made of light-colored gravel and is bordered by grass and fallen leaves. The overall tone is somewhat somber due to the lack of foliage on the trees.

God Prepares Us

God Prepares Us

- David's past experiences weren't wasted - His time tending sheep & facing lions & bears was God's preparation for greater things.
- God uses our pain & struggle to shape us.
- God works through all things for our good & His purpose.

28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. (Romans 8:28 ESV)

God Prepares Us

- Our past doesn't disqualify us—it equips us.
- David wasn't trained as a warrior, but God trained him in the pasture.
- God's faithfulness in the past gives us confidence for today.
- David trusted God based on His record of past deliverance.

God Prepares Us

- We all carry scars, but God uses them.
- Like the five smooth stones in the brook, our trials shape us for God's purpose.

TRUST
GOD

Trust God

- David rejected Saul's armor - He chose to be himself, not someone else's version of success.
- True strength isn't in appearance, but in faith.
- David wasn't a warrior, but his faith made him strong.
- God made each one of us on purpose for a purpose.

*14 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.
(Psalm 139:14 ESV)*

Trust God

- Don't try to earn man's approval - seek God's call.
- We're servants of Christ, not people-pleasers.

*10 For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God?
Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to
please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.
(Galatians 1:10 ESV)*

- David didn't wait for better tools - he used what he had.
- God blesses obedience.

THE BATTLE BELONGS TO THE LORD

The background of the slide features a sepia-toned, hazy image. On the right, a large silhouette of Goliath stands, holding a long spear in his right hand and a large, round shield in his left. On the left, a much smaller silhouette of David is shown in a dynamic pose, as if running or leaping towards Goliath while holding a stone in his right hand. The overall atmosphere is dramatic and historical.

1 Samuel 17

The Battle Belongs to the Lord

- David ran into the battle with bold faith.
- He acted as if he believed God would do what He promised.
- David declared God's victory before the battle began.
- He knew the outcome wasn't up to him but up to God.

The Battle Belongs to the Lord

- Like David, Jesus stood between us & our enemy - sin & death - and defeated them.

55 “O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?” [Hosea 13:14] 56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 15:55–57)

Te Battle Belongs to the Lord

- Our victory is in Jesus, not in ourselves.

37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. (Romans 8:37 ESV)

- The biggest battles are spiritual, not physical.

*12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.
(Ephesians 6:12 ESV)*

Practical Application

- Remember God's faithfulness from your past when facing new challenges.
- Use your unique experiences & gifts to serve others.
- Trust God in every battle - He's already won the war.
- Don't compare yourself to others; God made you to be you.
- Rely on Jesus' strength - not your own - to overcome struggles.
- Be a stone in God's hand - available, shaped by grace & ready to be used.

Discussion Questions

- What are some past experiences where you now see God was preparing you for something greater?
- What does it mean to you that Jesus is your champion and has already won the victory over sin and death?
- Are there any “Saul’s armor” moments in your life—times you tried to be someone God didn’t create you to be?
- What is a current “giant” in your life that you need to trust God with?

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