

DAY 13 (From Daring Faith)

Read 1 Samuel 17: 41-50.

When God gives you a dream, don't be surprised when people try to hold you back- sometimes even the people who love you the most.

David faced four giants before he got to Goliath. They weren't; physical giants, but they were giants in his mind. We will face these giants too.

The first giant was delay. In David's case, his dad held him back. Even after the prophet Samuel anointed David as king, Jesse told David to get back to tending sheep! No dream is fulfilled instantly. God gives you the dream one day, but He doesn't fulfill it the next day. It may be years before you see the fulfillment of your life dream. There is always a waiting period.

The second giant was discouragement. Goliath created a climate of fear in Israel. Everybody was convinced they were going to lose the battle. But David rose up in faith and said to Goliath, "This is the Lord's battle, and He will give you to us!" Who are you listening to who says it can't be done?

The third giant was disapproval. David's brother questioned his motives and disapproved of him going after Goliath. When God gives us a dream that other people are afraid of and we go for it anyway, we will be misjudged, maligned, and misunderstood. We have to decide what matters more to us- the approval of other people or the approval of God.

The fourth giant was doubt. There was no greater expert on war than King Saul. He told David he was crazy for thinking he could fight a warrior like Goliath. Are you doubting yourself because some "expert" is saying we can't do it, even though God says we can?

Ask God to give our church His dream and plan. Then ask God for the courage to fight for that plan no matter what obstacles face us.