

41 Goliath walked out toward David with his shield bearer ahead of him, 42 sneering in contempt at this ruddy-faced boy. 43 “Am I a dog,” he roared at David, “that you come at me with a stick?” And he cursed David by the names of his gods. 44 “Come over here, and I’ll give your flesh to the birds and wild animals!” Goliath yelled.

45 David replied to the Philistine, “You come to me with sword, spear, and javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of Heaven’s Armies—the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. 46 Today the LORD will conquer you, and I will kill you and cut off your head. And then I will give the dead bodies of your men to the birds and wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel! 47 And everyone assembled here will know that the LORD rescues his people, but not with sword and spear. This is the LORD’s battle, and he will give you to us!”

— 1 Samuel 17:41-47

Discussion/Journal Questions

Take a moment and think about your kingdom. Where are the spaces that you have control over? (For example, your home, your car, etc.) What happens when your kingdom expands?

In the sermon, John presented two options: the crown and the basin. Which of these marks the followers of Jesus? Why?

Read 1 Samuel 17:41-47. If anyone is unfamiliar with the setting of this story, read or summarize the rest of the chapter.

What was the basis of David’s bold faith in this situation?

Sometimes people want the blessings of God without surrendering to God. In other words, we want God to defeat the Goliaths in our lives, but we do not want Him to be King over us. In what areas of life do you struggle with surrendering?

If Jesus is King, what do we do when His words or ways conflict with what we want?

What does it mean to be a person after God’s own heart like David?

Who do you need to share this message with this week?

How can your group pray for you this week? How can you encourage and pray for them?

Who are you praying for to accept Jesus, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?

Who are you currently discipling, and what specifically did you do this week to help them know, love, and follow Jesus?

Who are you considering for future discipleship relationships, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?