Introduction

<u>Looming problems for young men</u>

According to research by the Institute for Family Studies, "there are a record number of young men that are flaming out academically, wiping out socially with girls, and later failing in relationships with women. Major symptoms that we see include: a disenchantment with education, lack of motivation to work toward real life goals, opting out of the workforce, self-imposed social isolation, and excessive video game and porn use."

You Need a Cause Worth Fighting For

<u>The glory of God among his people</u>

And David heard him (vs. 23)
Taking away the reproach of Israel (vs. 26)
Goliath defying *the God of the armies of Israel* (vs. 46)
That all this assembly may know that the Lord saves not with sword or spear… but the battle is the Lord's (vs. 47)

<u>The glory of God among all the earth</u>

When God's people stand up against evil, the world will know about our God!

<u>Opposing the darkness</u>

"Since it is so likely that (children) will meet cruel enemies, let them at least have heard of brave knights and heroic courage. Otherwise you are making their destiny not brighter but darker."

- C.S. Lewis

You Need a Vision for Your Life

<u>Was David influenced by riches and a shot to marry the king's daughter?</u>
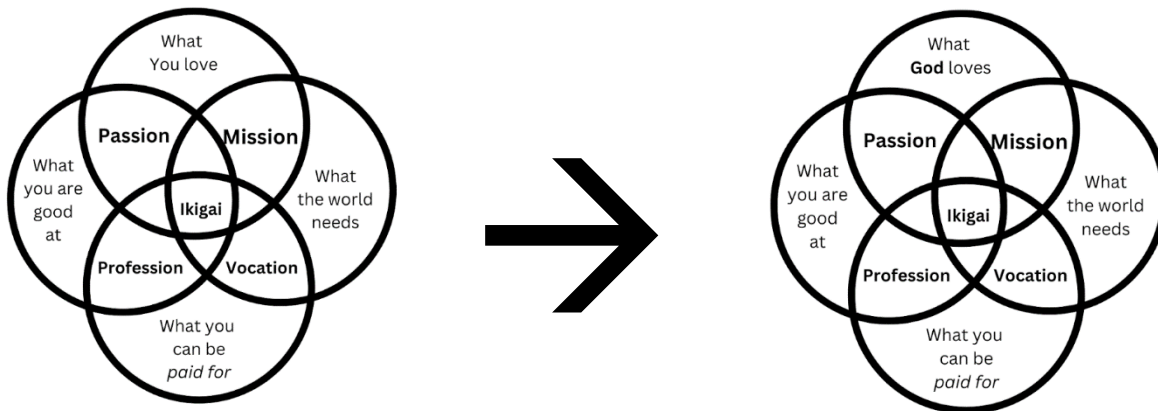
<u>Money, a wife, and the ability to exert influence</u>

Many OT examples – Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Job, David, Solomon

These things are <u>not</u> worldly – what you do with them <u>*can*</u> be worldly. David's house freed!

Develop a plan that allows you to glorify God with your life

Reworking the Japanese concept of Ikigai, which translates "your reason for being."

Jesus knew his purpose. Do you?

Questions for Study and Reflection

1. In this passage, what motivates David to slay Goliath? Find as many reasons as you can.
2. Is there darkness around you that you need to stand up against?
3. Are you willing to take risks for God?
4. Do you know why God has you on this earth? What is your "ikigai?"