

Daring Faith Series - Part 2: Expecting the Best

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Welcome to part 2 of our series called Daring Faith. Our sermon title for this morning is,

“Expecting the Best” (*back center screen*)

Last week we covered the topic of Building a Life of Faith. If you were not able to be with us last week, I highly recommend you go back online and check it out some points this week so you can be up to date on this series.

Not positive thinking.

Not wishful thinking.

Faith is the confident assurance that God is in control of the future and that he plans what’s best for my life, because he loves me.

We are going to look at some glimpses of the life of David. We will be in the Psalms a bit and in 1 Samuel chapter 17.

Psalm 32:8

⁸ I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.

Psalm 32:8

⁸ The Lord says, “I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you.

Goliath. He’s too big to fight. David said, “He’s too big to miss.”

1. When I expect the best, it honors God.

I’d like to look at the story of David and Goliath and watch David’s behavior through this entire event. In chapter 16 we learn that David is anointed to be the next king of Israel, that he is commissioned to play the harp for King Saul to calm him down, that Saul liked David and that David had become one of King Saul’s armor bearers. David in going back and forth between serving his dad and serving Saul.

David is living a life of faith.

Faith is the confident assurance that God is in control of the future and that he plans what's best for my life, because he loves me.

If God is calling me to be king, how would a king act in this moment?

1 Samuel 17:46 ⁴⁶ This day the Lord will deliver you into my hands, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head. This very day I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds and the wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel⁴⁷ 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,

Goliath. He's too big to fight. David said, "He's too big to miss."

2. When I expect the best, it encourages others.

1 Samuel 17:52

⁵² Then the men of Israel and Judah surged forward with a shout and pursued the Philistines

Hebrews 10:24

²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds,

Transition to point 4. Let's get really practical. How was David able to expect the best? How did he build such a confident assurance in God?

Some of you might be facing giants, and you are saying, "I could really use some of that." In the book of Psalms, we find four things that David did.

3. Tune into God every morning.

Psalms 5:3

³ In the morning, Lord, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait expectantly.

Good morning Lord or good Lord it's morning?

Every morning may seem overwhelming. it's not about perfection; it's about direction.

Morning routine:

- Early Raising
 - Go to bed earlier
 - Swap the hour on the end of your day for one in the morning

Why would you get up early?

To center yourself on your core values. What matters the most to you?

The Core Value for your relationship is God

- Tune into God first, not the news.
 - Utmost for his highest –
 - **“The goal of the missionary is to do God’s will, not to be useful or to win the lost. A missionary *is* useful and he *does* win the lost, but that is not his goal. His goal is to do the will of his Lord.” Oswald Chambers**
 - Daily bread
 - **When my grown son faced a difficult situation, I reminded him about God’s constant care and provision during his dad’s year of unemployment. I recounted the times God strengthened our family and gave us peace while my mom fought and lost her battle with leukemia. Highlighting the stories of God’s faithfulness stitched into Scripture, I affirmed He was good at keeping His word. I led my son down our family’s God-paved memory lane, reminding him about the ways He remained reliable through our valley and mountaintop moments. Whether we were struggling or celebrating, God’s presence, love, and grace proved sufficient. As we tell of our great God’s majesty, mercy, and intimate love, our convictions and the faith of others can be strengthened by the confirmation of His enduring trustworthiness.**

What are the core values of your life?

Core Values for marriage or singleness

Faith is the confident assurance that God is in control of the future and that he plans what’s best for my life, because he loves me.

If God is calling me to be married, how would a married person act in this moment?

(put these slides up one at a time lower third and center back screen)

- **How can I serve my spouse today?**

- **How can I protect my sexual and emotional purity for my spouse?**
- **Is there anything that I can do that would make me easier to live with?**

Core Value for raising your children

When my children are adults that they will be the sum total of their Experiences, their Decisions, and their Relationships. You can't control their experiences, and you can't control their decisions, but we all have opportunity to invest in three key relationship in our children's lives.

(put these slides up one at a time lower third and center back screen)

- **What can you do to enhance your child's relationship with you?**
- **What can you do to enhance your child's relationship with God?**
- **What can you do to influence your child's relationships with people outside of the home?**

Core Values for your calling

How can I grow in my current calling in life, employment?

When you have a plan, a purpose, a goal, a vision.

Faith is the confident assurance that God is in control of the future and that he plans what's best for my life, because he loves me.

It will cause you to expect the best. Start the day like David did. I will rejoice and be glad in it.

4. Think on God's promises throughout the day.

- Memorize scripture. Nothing will change you from fearing the worst to expecting the best like the word of God.
- There are over 7,000 promises in the bible.

Psalm 119:95 Though the wicked hide along the way to kill me, I will quietly keep my mind upon your promises. (TLB)

Even in the midst of some very dark moments David meditated on God's word.

Verse of the day, scripture on your wall, in your car.

Psalm 119:11

¹¹ I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

The key is to hold tightly to your faith.

Hebrews 10:23 NLT

²³ Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise.

5. Trust in God's love.

Faith is the confident assurance that God is in control of the future and that he plans what's best for my life, because he loves me.

Psalm 42:11¹¹ But, O my soul, don't be discouraged. Don't be upset. Expect God to act! For I know that I shall again have plenty of reason to praise him for all that he will do. He is my help! He is my God!

6. Talk with other believers.

We talked a bit ago about the power of relationships.

1 Corinthians 15:33

³³ Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character."

Hebrews 10:24-25

²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Mentors, small groups, ministry teams.

Closing song.