



gracefellowship

Goliath Must Fall
February 7, 2021
Bigger Than Your Giant

:: 1 Samuel 17

Bumper Video: Louie Giglio session 1

Story: Josiah meeting Louie at Cousin's BBQ in Fort Worth, TX as a 2 year old.

Introduction: The first time I read this book was in 2018 and at the time I identified one giant from the book that I felt like I was dealing with and needed to focus attention on.

I reread the book in 2020 while I was on sabbatical and was shocked to discover that all 5 giants this book deals with had reared their ugly head in my life! I felt like I was under attack on all different fronts! If that's the case for me, it's very likely it's the case for you. In this series we want to look at an encounter David had with a very real giant named Goliath and we want to make some connections from David's story to our own lives. There are giants that Satan sends against us to taunt us and scare us and demoralize us to try to keep us from living in the victory Jesus offers us as His followers. But we want to learn how to trust God to bring those giants down so that we can walk in fullness of faith and fullness of freedom.

To get a sense of the story- and you probably already know it- let's read the full account together today.

:: 1 Samuel 17

More than likely when I say when I say we are talking about David and Goliath a few things come to your mind:

- A sermon you heard in church
- Children's Ministry or Youth Ministry Camp flashbacks
- Sports analogies
- Business analogies

But in truth, this is the story of the power of God to liberate His people from giants! We walk in to a war zone. This isn't a happy story. Right off the bat we find that the people of God at war and there is a giant that causing all kinds of

trouble. That's the historically accurate part of this saga. The other truth is that this is our story and it focuses on the power of God to rescue us from the giants that have a grip on our lives.

You know in your life what the giant is you face. It has a name- and all too often it comes calling for you. And while no one can physically see your giant, in your eyes it is 10' tall and ugly and powerful!

Maybe you are looking at the giant of...

An eating disorder

Pornography

Drugs

Self-harm

Physical illness

Or any number of other giants that exist in our world. We can't possibly tackle every giant that is out there causing havoc in our lives, but in this series we are going to look at five, and I think you'll find a tie in with those five things to every kind of giant you are facing in your life.

David could see his giant! And he could hear him. Everyone could! But no one was willing to do anything about it. In fact, when we join the story we learn that this giant has been engaging in psychological warfare for 40 days and the two armies are in a stand-off.

Here's what we know about the giant that David encountered:

Goliath was 9' 9" tall // He was a warrior from his youth and was called a champion // He was brandishing weapons and armor- the coat or armor weighed 125 lbs // The iron point on his spear weighed 15 lbs // The spear shaft was probably 12-15' tall

This is the man who has been coming out to the front lines of the war every day and challenging someone to engage him in one-on-one combat. Who would want to fight this giant?

David!

Why? The glory of God is at stake! The giant keeps insisting God is no match for him. David's passion for God's glory is fire hot and he refuses to let this giant defy his God.

26 David asked the men standing near him, "What will be done for the man who kills this Philistine and removes this disgrace from Israel? Who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?"

Here was David's perspective: This giant is no match for the God of Israel! And guess what- your giant is no match for God's power, either!

No matter how big my giant is- God is bigger!

Your giant may have been taunting you for a long time- but it's time for your giant to fall!

My giant MUST fall!

As long as the armies of Israel were cowering in place at the site of Goliath God was not being given the glory and honor He deserves. It's not just a good idea that your giant SHOULD fall, or a nice thought that your giant COULD fall. Your giant MUST fall! God wants us to live in the freedom He provided when Jesus died on the cross for our sins.

Satan wants to send giants against you to keep you from living in faith and freedom- and they must be dealt with.

Here's what I want you to hear very clearly this morning when it comes to the story of David and Goliath, and I'm thankful Louie included this in his book, because our thoughts line up perfectly on this:

In the story of David and Goliath, we are not David!

You can't try hard enough to win; you can't be strong enough to beat your giant. God isn't saying to us this morning, "When you have a giant in your life go run to the battle line and take that thing on! You've got this! No giant can stand up to you!"

If anything, you and I are Saul in the story! We feel demoralized by giant in front of us and we need someone to come fight on our behalf and deal with the giant we can't beat! We need a David to come to our camp and fight for us.

So, if you and I aren't David, who is?

Jesus is David in the story. He is the giant killer!

:: 1 Samuel 17:36-37

36 Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God.

37 The LORD who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine." Saul said to David, "Go, and the LORD be with you."

Now listen to David as he talks to Goliath

:: 1 Samuel 17:45-47

45 David said to the Philistine, "You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.

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 Israel.

47 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, and he will give all of you into our hands."

We've got giants in our lives that have no power over us because Jesus fights on our behalf. We are going to talk about 5 giants in this series:

Our Giants:

- 1. Fear**
- 2. Rejection**
- 3. Comfort**
- 4. Anger**
- 5. Addiction**

This isn't a self-help series. I don't want to pump you up with "rah-rah speeches" that get you thinking that all you have to do is try harder and you'll put these giants in their place. My guess is you've probably tried that before and it hasn't worked. Your giant is still right there with you. We don't need more of us- we need more of Jesus.

"If we truly want to change, then we need to understand our dependency on the all sufficiency of Jesus Christ. Our change is more about trusting and less about trying." - Louie Giglio

There is something else Louie points out in his book that I think is good for us to know and be aware of as we start to close up today, and I would encourage you to read what he says because he covers it very well:

Your giant is dead but still deadly.

When Jesus died on the cross he put the death nail in Satan's story. But in God's sovereign plan He did not put an immediate end to Satan. Through Jesus you have power over Satan and the giants he can throw your way. But those giants can still be deadly if we give them leverage in our lives.

A couple weeks ago I used an illustration in our series on Daniel as we talked about spiritual warfare- and I hesitated to use it because I wanted to use it here today. So I'm going to use it again because it helps illustrate this point! After WWII a Japanese officer continued to fight in the jungles of the Philippines, refusing to believe the war was over. He thought the Allies were using propaganda to try to get him to give up his fight. For the next 29 years he continued fighting a war that was over! The war was won, but this man remained deadly.

In the book Louie writes:

"Change isn't the result of a formula. Change might not be immediate for

you. Your giant might not disappear in an instant. But you have the name, and the power and the authority fo the blood of the risen Lord Jesus Christ. You have the power of the cross, the power of Jesus' resurrection. Your giant may be big, but it is not bigger than the name of Jesus.” - Louie Giglio

When Jesus does give you victory in an area, you have to stay vigilant and keep faithful to maintain victory. In David's encounter with Goliath he didn't stop with putting a stone in his forehead. Do you remember what David did next?

:: 1 Samuel 17:48-51; 57

48 As the Philistine moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet him.

49 Reaching into his bag and taking out a stone, he slung it and struck the Philistine on the forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell facedown on the ground.

50 So David triumphed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone; without a sword in his hand he struck down the Philistine and killed him.

51 David ran and stood over him. He took hold of the Philistine's sword and drew it from the sheath. After he killed him, he cut off his head with the sword. When the Philistines saw that their hero was dead, they turned and ran.

57 As soon as David returned from killing the Philistine, Abner took him and brought him before Saul, with David still holding the Philistine's head.

That probably wasn't in your children's ministry lesson. I can guarantee that part didn't make it into the Precious Moments Bible! This story is grisly! When the giant is defeated David cuts off his head and carries it around!

- He shows it to the Philistine army so they know they are defeated.
- He shows it to King Saul so he can stop being afraid.

When we look at the cross we see our champion holding the head of our giants. Through Jesus we have victory. Through Him there is power to see our giants fall.

Read from *Goliath Must Fall*:

“So what do you do if your Goliath starts talking to you anytime soon? You remind him that he's dead. You start with the Jesus-talk. You stop listening to what Goliath is saying, and you start listening to what God is saying. Maybe all you take is a tiny step at first but it's a big step for you to say, 'Right here, right now I believe in the power of the name of Jesus.'” (49)

“The victory is already here. We just need to have the Spirit of God infuse us with the reality of that amazing truth. We just need to have the Spirit of God pull us up to that height. Victory starts with changing our minds and believing that Jesus

fought once and for all, and our giant has fallen.”

“Praise God. Not only will Goliath fall. He *must* fall. He must fall so Jesus can be exalted in this world.” (pg 50)

- Louie Giglio

- Pray