

FACING GIANTS IN LIFE AND WORK
50 Days of Transformation – Part 7
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“Now the Philistines had gathered their forces for war... They occupied one hill and the Israelites another, with the valley between them. A champion named Goliath, from Gath, came out of the Philistine camp. He was a giant of a man, over nine feet tall, wearing a huge bronze helmet, and a coat of bronze armor that weighed over 125 pounds, He also wore bronze leggings, and slung a huge bronze javelin over his back, The iron spearhead alone weighed 15 pounds, and a soldier with a large shield always walked in front of Goliath.” *1 Samuel 17:1-7*

LESSONS FROM DAVID FACING GOLIATH

1. Giants are not what they seem
2. Giants can be slain
3. God provides the dream

THE OTHER ‘GIANTS’ DAVID HAD TO FACE

1. DELAY

“Now David was the youngest of Jesse’s eight sons... His three older brothers enlisted in Saul’s army...but David went back and forth from Saul to tend his father’s sheep in Bethlehem.” *(vs. 12-15)*

2. DISCOURAGEMENT

“Each day Goliath would stand and shout at the ranks of Israel’s army, “Why do you come out here and line up for battle? ...Choose one man to fight me. If he’s able to kill me, we will become your subjects; but if I kill him, you’ll become our subjects and serve us.” Day after day Goliath taunted them saying ‘This day I defy the ranks of Israel! When Saul and the Israelites heard this, everyone was deeply shaken and paralyzed with fear.’” *(vs. 8-11)*

“As he was talking with his brothers, Goliath... stepped out from his lines and shouted his usual defiance and David heard it. Whenever the Israelites saw the man, they all fled from him in great fear.” *(vs. 23-24)*

3. DISAPPROVAL

“David asked the men standing near him, “What will be done for the man who kills this Philistine and removes this disgrace from Israel?” ...Eliab, David’s oldest brother... burned with anger and asked, “Why have you come down here?...I know how conceited you are and how wicked your heart is; you came down only to watch the battle.” “Now what have I done?”, said David. “Can’t I even speak?” *(vs. 28-29)*

4. DOUBT

“David said to Saul, “Let no one lose heart on account of this Philistine; your servant will go and fight him.” Saul replied, “You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him; you are only a young man and he has been a warrior from his youth.” *(vs 32-33)*

HOW TO DEFEAT GIANTS

1. REMEMBER HOW GOD HAS HELPED ME IN THE PAST

“In protecting my sheep, I’ve killed both a lion and a bear... The Lord who delivered me from the teeth of that lion, and the claws of that bear, will surely now deliver me from this Philistine too!” *(vs. 36-37)*

2. USE THE TOOLS THAT GOD HAS GIVEN ME NOW

“Then Saul dressed David in his own armor... But David said, ‘I cannot go out in these, because I’m not used to them.’ So he took them off... Instead he chose 5 smooth stones for his sling.” *(vs 38-40)*

3. IGNORE THE DREAM BUSTERS

“...When others were speaking against him, David encouraged himself in the Lord.” *1 Samuel 30:6*

4. EXPECT GOD TO HELP ME FOR HIS GLORY

“David shouted to Goliath ‘You come at me with sword, spear, and javelin, but I come to you in the name of the Lord Almighty! ...Today the Lord will conquer you.. and the whole world will know that there is a God! And everyone will know that the Lord doesn’t need weapons to rescue his people. It is his battle, not ours. The Lord will give you to us!” *(vs. 45-47)*