

know the story of how a young boy, David, took a smooth stone and killed a giant named Goliath. David was the youngest in his family so while the others were out fighting the Philistines, he was tending the sheep. One day his father asked him to take some food to his brothers who were part of the army and also give some to the commanders. Maybe the father thought that if he sent some food to the commanders they would not put his sons in the front of the battle. When David got there he talked with his brothers and then started asking questions about the battle and the men they were fighting.

David was told that one man, Goliath, was constantly badgering the Israelites and each day he would ask for one of them to battle him as an individual. All of them were afraid of him.

He was almost ten feet tall and had a complete set of armor. Saul the king wasn't going to do battle with him, and so they were at a standoff! They told David that the man who killed Goliath would be given Saul's daughter in marriage which would put him in the roval family. David started asking questions and his brothers were upset. What right did this young kid have to be asking questions? They blamed him for just coming down to see the battle and said he was conceited and had left the sheep alone in the fields. Never mind that he had brought food for the brothers!!!

David continued to talk with the other soldiers and word got out to Saul that this young man "Goliath was a champion, a monster who had never been beaten, and then this young guy, David, came forward, a child who believed in God and did it." Tyson Fury

wanted to help. When Saul approached David, David volunteered to go up against Goliath. Saul told him that he was too young. David said to Saul "Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. 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. David had no armor, no experience, no equipment, he was not battle tested, nor was he trained. But one thing he had that Goliath also had was confidence but the huge difference was his confidence was in His God and not in his own strength.

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." Samuel 17 34-37 Saul put armor on him and was ready to send him up against Goliath. Saul did give his blessing to David. "Saul said to David, 'Go, and the LORD be with you." 1 Samuel 17:37b

I wonder what David's brothers and the other soldiers thought about this. None of them were willing to go and fight, but this young man was willing to take on the giant.

The armor was too heavy and so David said he would use his sling shot and a few stones. Goliath said "Am I a dog, that you come at me with sticks? Come here and I'll give your flesh to the birds and the wild animals!" 1 Samuel 17:43-44.

Sometimes we forget that God is with us and we try to do things on our own, or we become a coward like Saul who "But so much of what is beautiful and valuable in the world comes from the shepherd, who has more strength and purpose than we ever imagine."

Malcolm Gladwell

wanted someone else to fight his battles. David saw what had to be done and decided that with God's help he could do it. The power of prayer is always with us.

We aren't asked to kill a giant, but we are asked to do other things. The giant may be someone that has wronged us. It may be an addiction to anything, not necessarily drugs. It could be smoking, overeating, etc. It may be to gossip or wasting time or any number of things that stand between us and doing what we should be doing. Sometimes something seemingly insignificant at the time can become that giant that takes over control. First you have to identify the giant, then the victory can be yours.

There is a way to beat that giant. It is the same way that David used so many years ago. He called on his Lord. We have that same opportunity today. We don't have to do it out in the middle of the field or let anyone else know He is there in our quietness waiting for us to talk with Him. With His help, we can defeat the giant regardless of its size.



Prayer: Spirit of the Living God, please fall afresh on me. Melt me into Your mold, fill me with Your Spirit, and use me to do Your will. Open a new life for me and give me courage to live the life You have given to me through Jesus Christ. Amen

- **1.** Are you facing a giant problem or seemingly impossible situation?
- 2. How can you take steps to defeat that giant?
- 3. Why was David successful in defeating the giant Goliath?
- 4. Do you need to take courageous steps to face insults and bad circumstances?
- 5. Can you see the situation more clearly after time in prayer?
- 6. Explain "For every Goliath, there is a stone."?

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In a world filled with goliaths be a David.

Be the one who places his trust in Him and not in self. Greater is He who lives in you. With God on your side you can be an overcomer, a slayer of giants.

Get pumped up! Roar! -Caroline Naoroji