

PEFC Weekly Family & Small Group Study Guide

July, 10 2022

Paynesville Evangelical Free Church
God Uses Ordinary People to Build His Kingdom
Fear or Faithful Confidence
I Samuel 17



Big Idea

When Fear is Legitimate and the Voice of Others Distracts You, Remember the Battle Belongs to the LORD!

1. Don't let legitimate fear paralyze you if your hope and trust is found in the LORD.
2. Don't allow the voice of others distract you from your focus on the LORD.
3. Believe in your heart and show in your actions that the battle belongs to the LORD.

Introduction

Pastor Brad shared a time when he felt legitimate fear. Relate a time when you faced a "Goliath" in your life. How did you react? What was the outcome?

Bible Study Questions

If you haven't already, skim through I Samuel 17.

In verses 1-11, describe what is happening. What was the reaction of Saul and the Israel army to Goliath? Why? How might Goliath reflect some intense fear that you have had?

How is David described in verses 12-24? Compare and contrast him with his brothers, Saul, & the army.

What did Pastor Brad point out as significant about “40 days” in verse 16? Recall the examples from Noah, Moses and the mountain (Ex. 24), Spies in Cannon, Elijah travel to Horeb, (I Kings 19), Jesus fasted before his temptation, resurrected Jesus (Acts 1:3).

Why did David’s older brother, Eliab, become angry (vs 28)? What does this reveal about his heart? Why did Saul and the others see David unqualified to fight Goliath? What qualifications does David give (vs. 34-37). How can remembering our past victories help us in times of legitimate fear?

How was Saul’s “help” (vs 38-39) a distraction to David? Relate how David’s distractions (his brothers & Saul) can reflect distractions we may face when making a choice to trust in Jesus.

What gave confidence to David as he faced off against Goliath (vs 45-47)? Who does the text portray as the real hero of the story? Why? Describe what happened (vs. 48-58). How does this story point to Jesus?

Next Steps

Identify a “Goliath” in your life. Reflect on verse 17 and commit the battle to Jesus.

Identify and say “no” to the voices and distractions that may be discouraging you from trusting in Jesus for victory.

Read Ephesians 6:10-17. In light of these verses, list the things you need to do to, *“be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.”*

Prayer

Thank God for power to overcome the fear that paralyzes our lives. Share life needs within your group and pray for one another. Remember that prayer requests need to remain confidential and not be repeated outside your group without permission.