

# DAVID & GOLIATH



1 SAMUEL 17:40-51

# Our life is kind of like a bowl of spaghetti



Forest Gump's mama said that "life is like a box of chocolates."

I think our life is like a bowl of spaghetti noodles.

Our life is touched and affected by a lot of other people. They changed our life, but their name will never be in a history book.

In the same way, our life has the potential to touch a lot of lives and change the course of history even though the world won't know our name (but God does!)

# Understanding David's Background

It's easy to just concentrate on the 5 minutes on the battlefield, but there were things going on behind the scenes as well that affected the outcome of the battle (like a tangle of spaghetti noodles).

What kinds of things have gone on behind the scenes of your life?

- Who or what helped you to understand your need for Christ?
- What scripture verses helped make salvation and faith clear to you?
- What kinds of things have helped you grow spiritually the most?
- Who have been the most influential people in your life?

# What are some of the lessons from David and Goliath?

- 1. David was the smallest, youngest, least-likely one to be chosen king from Jesse's family.**

Sometimes we have feelings of inferiority. "If I was just older, or younger, or smarter, or taller, or richer, or more talented ... then I could make a difference.

*1 Samuel 16:7 "The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."*

# What are some of the lessons from David and Goliath?

**2. Sometimes we think that only big public events (like the 5-minute battle) change history. That's wrong.**

History is changed in a billion little ways every day. Washington, Lincoln and Einstein were big public figures, but they were only successful because of the people who helped them to succeed. People loved them, fed them, taught them, prayed for and encouraged them.

II Timothy 3:14 *“Continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it”*

# What are some of the lessons from David and Goliath?

## **3. Fear and courage are both contagious.**

Sometimes we act in ways that causes others to hurt, doubt, and fear. We can also act in ways that helps others – faith, hope and love are contagious.

*Phil 1:6 “being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion”*

# Six Things That Happened Before the Battle

## 1. God called David (I Sam 16:12)

God knew that, as he lived his life, David (and all of us) needed to know that he was chosen and loved by God.

Ephesians 1:4 *“For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight.”*

# Six Things That Happened Before the Battle

## **2. God prepared David (I Sam 16:18)**

David practiced being a shepherd of sheep and became a leader of men.

David practiced his harp and was ready to play in the palace of the king.

David practiced with his sling and was brave in defending the flock.

David prepared his heart to seek God's heart.

*Acts 13:22 "I have found David son of Jesse a man after my own heart"*



# Six Things That Happened Before the Battle

## 3. **God empowered David with his Spirit (1 Sam 16:13)**

God knew that David (and all of us) could not live life to the full in our own strength and wisdom.

John 14:16 *“And I will ask the Father, and he will give You another Counselor to be with you forever.”*

# Six Things That Happened Before the Battle

## 4. **God put David in the right place at the right time (I Sam 17:23)**

- Jesse sent him with bread and cheese to the battlefield
- Goliath stepped out and shouted his usual defiance and David heard
- David saw, he heard, he really listened, he studied, he paid attention
- Sometimes God puts us in the right place, and we don't pay attention

Matthew 13:15 *“For this people’s heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes.”*

# Six Things That Happened Before the Battle

## 5. **God turned David's weakness into a strength (I Sam 17:38-40)**

Goliath was big and strong, but slower and overly confident. David was weak, unprotected by armor and unskilled in combat, but agile and willing for God to use his ability with a sling. David was faithful, available and teachable.

*2 Cor 12:9-10 "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me."*

# What will we put on the altar for God to use?

I came to Christ because a friend was willing to use their car.

There are ladies who use their sewing machines to bless others.

We have teams from churches who use their time to pack boxes.

Builders for Christ use their hammers.

Larry used jokes, skits and songs to share the gospel in state prisons.

A doctor opened his home for 15 years for Bible study every Friday.

My wife uses her cooking to meet needs and start conversations.

All of us can be available to let God use even small things for his glory.

# Six Things That Happened Before the Battle

## **6. David's motive was the glory of God (I Sam 17:46)**

David wanted the world to know there was a God in Israel.

David wanted the people of God to have faith and courage.

God's people are scattered all over the world. We are all different ages, we have different skills, experience and opportunities.

But whatever we do, we can do it for the glory of God.

*I Cor 10:31 "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."*

# The Three Questions

That day, as David walked to the battlefield area carrying bread and cheese and heard Goliath's challenge, I believe he was thinking and talking to God about three questions:

What has God prepared me to do?

- I'm quick, I'm not afraid, I have some experience with a sling

What can I do to make a difference?

- I can help the army of Israel to gain courage, faith and trust in God

What is my opportunity today?

- I can fight the giant

# That Was Then, This Is Now

*Acts 13:36 “David served God’s purpose in his own generation.”*

David used his skills to help people in his generation for God’s glory.  
What about you and me in our generation?

*Micah 6:8 “And what does the Lord require of you?  
To act justly and to love mercy and  
to walk humbly with your God.”*