

MORE TO THE STORY

JOURNEY WAYPOINTS

July 6-12 . 2025

A stop along the journey to study, share, and support one another while we learn the way of Jesus.

This Week's Big Idea:

In his battle with Goliath, David teaches us that we can face personal and spiritual battles with faith instead of fear, but there is more to the story: this is also a time of preparation for David as God works in him to teach him to trust and obey on the way to becoming the king of Israel.

Scripture and Study:

KEY TEXT: 1 Samuel 17; Psalm 8; Psalm 23 [Click here to access this week's scripture](#)

When David stepped onto the battlefield to face Goliath, it wasn't his first encounter with danger. Long before the eyes of Israel were upon him, David had learned to trust God in private battles. As a shepherd, he fought off lions and bears to protect his flock (1 Sam 17:34-37). Those moments, unseen by anyone else, prepared him for this tall challenge. David didn't rely on his own strength or military training—he relied on God's faithfulness, proven time and again in the everyday moments of a shepherd boy.

Often, we long for the dramatic victories—miraculous healings, life reversals, the victory for the "good guys." But God is at work in and through our obedience in every part of our life, not just when it is a big moment. David's courage wasn't born on the battlefield; it was built through ordinary, quiet faithfulness in the fields. Each time God helped him protect his sheep, David's trust grew. So when Goliath mocked Israel and defied God, David's confidence wasn't misplaced. He trusted that God was at work and responded with courage.

Where is God training your faith today? The small places may seem unimportant, but they're shaping you for the giants you'll one day face. Be faithful in the small moments, and trust God to strengthen you for whatever lies ahead.

Discussion Questions:

- Tell a story of a past victory that God has brought to you.
- What small battles has God helped you through?
- Why do you think David was so confident in facing Goliath?
- In what ways is God calling you to acts of faithfulness and obedience?
- How can we encourage each other in our small battles?

Apply It:

- Write down one small challenge this week and pray for God's help with it.
- Memorize 1 Samuel 17:37.
- Encourage someone facing a battle this week after spending time praying for them. Ask God for how you can encourage them.