

## **COURAGE – Part 2**

### **FACING GIANTS**

February 17, 2019

“This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.” Joshua 1:9 (NLT)

**COURAGE:** the quality of mind or spirit that enables a person to face difficulty, danger, or pain without fear.

#### **1 Samuel 17:24-50 (NLT)**

<sup>24</sup> As soon as the Israelite army saw him, they began to run away in fright.

<sup>26</sup> David asked the soldiers standing nearby, “What will a man get for killing this Philistine and ending his defiance of Israel? Who is this pagan Philistine anyway, that he is allowed to defy the armies of the living God?”

<sup>28</sup> But when David’s oldest brother, Eliab, heard David talking to the men, he was angry. “What are you doing around here anyway?” he demanded. “What about those few sheep you’re supposed to be taking care of? I know about your pride and deceit. You just want to see the battle!”

<sup>31</sup> Then David’s question was reported to King Saul, and the king sent for him.

<sup>32</sup> “Don’t worry about this Philistine,” David told Saul. “I’ll go fight him!”

<sup>33</sup> “Don’t be ridiculous!” Saul replied. “There’s no way you can fight this Philistine and possibly win! You’re only a boy, and he’s been a man of war since his youth.”

<sup>37</sup> The LORD who rescued me from the claws of the lion and the bear will rescue me from this Philistine!” Saul finally consented. “All right, go ahead,” he said. “And may the LORD be with you!”

<sup>38</sup> Then Saul gave David his own armor—a bronze helmet and a coat of mail.

<sup>39</sup> David put it on, strapped the sword over it, and took a step or two to see what it was like, for he had never worn such things before. “I can’t go in these,” he protested to Saul. “I’m not used to them.” So David took them off again. <sup>40</sup> He picked up five smooth stones from a stream and put them into his shepherd’s bag. Then, armed only with his shepherd’s staff and sling, he started across the valley to fight the Philistine.

<sup>41</sup> Goliath walked out toward David with his shield bearer ahead of him,

<sup>42</sup> sneering in contempt at this ruddy-faced boy.

<sup>43</sup> “Am I a dog,” he roared at David, “that you come at me with a stick?” And he cursed David by the names of his gods.

<sup>44</sup> “Come over here, and I’ll give your flesh to the birds and wild animals!” Goliath yelled.

<sup>45</sup> David replied to the Philistine, “You come to me with sword, spear, and javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of Heaven’s Armies—the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.

<sup>46</sup> Today the LORD will conquer you, and I will kill you and cut off your head. And then I will give the dead bodies of your men to the birds and wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel!

<sup>47</sup> And everyone assembled here will know that the LORD rescues his people, but not with sword and spear. This is the LORD's battle, and he will give you to us!"

<sup>48</sup> As Goliath moved closer to attack, David quickly ran out to meet him.

<sup>49</sup> Reaching into his shepherd's bag and taking out a stone, he hurled it with his sling and hit the Philistine in the forehead. The stone sank in, and Goliath stumbled and fell face down on the ground.

<sup>50</sup> So David triumphed over the Philistine with only a sling and a stone, for he had no sword.

## **FACING GIANTS**

### 1. Be still.

"The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still." Exodus 14:14 (NIV)

### 2. Refocus your thoughts.

"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things." Philippians 4:8 (ESV)

### 3. Rely on Christ's strength.

"I have the strength to face all conditions by the power that Christ gives me." Philippians 4:13 (TEV)

### 4. Trust God for the outcome.

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart. Never rely on what you think you know." Proverbs 3:5 (TEV)