



DEFENDERS OF THE FAITH
Part 5 – David and Goliath
Rise Above the World's Expectations

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1 Samuel 17:3-11 (NLT), ³ So the Philistines and Israelites **faced each other** on opposite hills, with the valley between them. ⁴ Then **Goliath**, a **Philistine champion from Gath**, came out of the Philistine ranks to face the forces of Israel. He was over **nine feet tall!** ⁵ He wore a bronze helmet, and his bronze coat of mail weighed 125 pounds. ⁶ He also wore bronze leg armor, and he carried a bronze javelin on his shoulder. ⁷ The shaft of his spear was as heavy and thick as a weaver's beam, tipped with an iron spearhead that weighed 15 pounds. His armor bearer walked ahead of him carrying a shield. ⁸ Goliath stood and shouted a taunt across to the Israelites. "Why are you all coming out to fight?" he called. "I am the Philistine champion, but you are only the servants of Saul. **Choose one man to come down here and fight me!** ⁹ If he kills me, then we will be your slaves. But if I kill him, you will be our slaves! ¹⁰ **I defy the armies of Israel today!** Send me a man who will fight me!" ¹¹ When Saul and the Israelites heard this, they were **terrified and deeply shaken.**"

1. Be faithful in the _____ things.

1 Samuel 17:12-15 (NLT), ¹² Now David was the son of a man named Jesse, an Ephrathite from Bethlehem in the land of Judah. Jesse was an old man at that time, and he had eight sons. ¹³ Jesse's three oldest sons, Eliab, Abinadab, and Shimea, had already joined Saul's army to fight the Philistines. ¹⁴ **David was the youngest son.** David's three oldest brothers stayed with Saul's army, ¹⁵ but **David went back and forth so he could help his father with the sheep** in Bethlehem."

Psalms 78:70-72 (NIV), ⁷⁰ He chose David his servant and **took him from the sheep pens;** ⁷¹ from tending the sheep he brought him to be the **shepherd of his people** Jacob, of Israel his inheritance. ⁷² And David shepherded them with **integrity of heart;** with **skillful hands** he led them."

2. Seize your _____.

1 Samuel 17:16-31 (NLT), ²⁶ 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?**" ²⁷ And these men gave David the same reply. They said, "**Yes, that is the reward for killing him.**"

3. Rise above the _____ expectations.

1 Samuel 17:32-40 (NLT), ³² "Don't worry about this Philistine," David told Saul. "**I'll go fight him!**" ³³ "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."

³⁴ But **David persisted.** "I have been taking care of my father's sheep and goats," he said. "When a lion or a bear comes to steal a lamb from the flock, ³⁵ I go after it with a club and rescue the lamb from its mouth. If the animal turns on me, I catch it by the jaw and club it to death. ³⁶ I have done this to both **lions and bears**, and I'll do it to this **pagan Philistine**, too, for he has defied the armies of the living God! ³⁷ **The LORD who rescued me from the claws of the lion and the bear will rescue me from this Philistine!**"

4. Fight for the right _____.

1 Samuel 17:41-51 (NLT), ⁴¹ Goliath walked out toward David with his shield bearer ahead of him, ⁴² sneering in contempt at this ruddy-faced boy. ⁴³ "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.** ⁴⁴ "Come over here, and I'll give your flesh to the birds and wild animals!" Goliath yelled."

⁴⁵ 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.** ⁴⁶ 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!** ⁴⁷ 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!"**

⁴⁸ As Goliath moved closer to attack, **David quickly ran out to meet him.** ⁴⁹ 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."

⁵⁰ So **David triumphed over the Philistine with only a sling and a stone**, for he had no sword. ⁵¹ Then David ran over and pulled Goliath's sword from its sheath. David used it to kill him and cut off his head."