

David And Goliath - 1st Samuel Ch.17

**Observation** (what does the text say?) **Interpretation** (what does it mean?) **Application** (what does it mean to me/us?)

**Discussion/Topic Starters** (Ice Breakers)

- DAVID AND GOLIATH.... Assume for a moment this is the first time you have read this story. Before you arrived to the end, how do you think the story would have ended? Why does this story seem to connect with so many folks (it's arguably the most famous story in the Bible, along side Noah and the ark, Adam & Eve in the Garden,...)

**O: What things in the text strike you or jump out at you? Why?**

**Ch.17**

- O: Who are David's three eldest brothers and what do they do?
- O: Why does Jesse send David to his brothers?  
Other way to ask: How did God get David to the scene of the battle?
- O: Why doesn't Saul want David to fight Goliath?  
Follow-up: Summarize the interaction between Saul and David in 17:32-39. What are the most important things reveals in these verses about David? What are they most important things reveal here about Saul?  
Follow-up: What incentive did Saul give his people for fighting Goliath?  
Did this motivation prompt his soldiers to action/ Explain.
- O: What does David say his victory over Goliath will prove?
- O: What was David's response to Goliath's speech? Contrast this response to that offered by most of the Jewish army. What did God accomplish in using David to confront Goliath? What bigger message did he give His people?
  
- I: We hear David speak for the first time in 17:26. How is his attitude toward the situation different from everyone else's?  
Other way to ask: v.32-37 As David reasons with Saul, what does he indicate he knows about God?  
How had God prepared David for this day?  
What might God be teaching you about himself in the events of your life?
  
- I: Read 1Sam.16:7 again. In what way did David apply this truth to his confrontation with the giant?
- I: Sum up in one sentence what this story teaches about God.  
Follow-up: We find in vs. 45-47 David was empowered by faith not paralyzed by fear. While Israel, it seemed, was consumed by every detail of the giant, David was evidently consumed by every detail of God.  
\*What is it about God that overwhelmed David and gave him this confidence to face Goliath?
  
- A: David's deep concern for God's honor led him to challenge Goliath, how should/can our own concern for God's honor be manifested?
- A: For believers today, what possible application might 1 Sam. ch.17 have to our daily spiritual warfare? Our Identity? Our view of God?
- A: Share some of the problems that have consumed you lately. In what ways have they paralyzed you and in what ways have you been empowered by faith? Talk/write down the attributes about God that seem to overwhelm you/connect with you the most during this difficult time  
Other way to ask: What giants are drawn up against you in battle? How are they taunting you?  
Is your attitude toward them like Saul's or David's?  
How does your view of God/your identity/attitude need to change? How is that possible?  
In other words, What is God saying to you/us, how are you/we going to respond?

**Recommended Follow-up:**

- Read: Next week's sermon (3/9/2014) will focus on 1Sam. Ch. 18-19. Take time prior to next Sunday to read & study the passage, pray through the passage, meditate on the passage, etc.

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\* As discussed in Riverside's HGLT (Home Group Leader Training), these guides are to be starting points for home group leaders to develop their own guides and approaches to leading group discussions. This is a resource tool, not a rigid "go through this guide word-for-word." There are intentionally too many questions for a single home group time. This guide relies heavily upon *1Sam discussion guides* by Holman Reference (ISBN# 9780805490633), Johnson (9780687062263), Alexander (9781572930636), Wiersbe (9781434705051), NavPress (9781615217342), Arthur (9780736908078), Serendipity Bible (Littleton, CO 1989).