



Message-based Study

Date: January 3, 2021

Message: Looking At A Giant

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Video is available online at messages.visitccc.com

Connection

What was one of the hardest challenges you have faced? How did you get through it?

Cheer and Challenge

How did your "I will..." statement go? Share your experience on doing your "I will..." statement from last week's study.

Did you have a chance to follow through on the B.L.E.S.S. challenge from last week? If so, tell about your experience.

Content

When you are looking at a giant in your life, it's important to have a *theological* perspective (*based upon the nature and will of God as revealed to humans*) because God, through Jesus, **overcame all darkness, all sin, and all death. He gives the victory over life's giants!**

Read 1 Samuel 17:1-51.

1. Describe Goliath in stature and character (verses 4-10).
2. Who was David and how would you describe him (verses 12-51)?
3. What did Dave **perceive** was the problem when he got to the Israelite camp?
4. What **theological question** (*based on the nature of God*) did David ask (verse 26)? How does David's question reflect his understanding of who God is?

5. What **resolve** did David make when he heard the taunts from the Philistine? Summarize the explanation David gave for his resolve (verses 32-37).

6. Has there been a time in your life when you resolved to do something with complete trust in God's provision and trustworthy character? Share your experience.

7. As David **stepped forward** to meet Goliath, how did he prepare to battle the giant (verse 40)?

8. Often taking the first step forward, as you face your giants, is the most difficult. What can you learn from David's response to Goliath as he stepped forward to the battle line (verses 46-48)?

There is **triumph** over our giants as we **trust** in who God is, live with the **perspective** that the battle belongs to God, and **resolve** that God is mighty to give us victory.

As you face "giants" in your life, put in to practice these five steps that David demonstrated:

Perceive the issue

Question the issue from a theological perspective - "Who is this that defies God?"

Resolve that God will get you through

Step forward trusting that God goes before you and will have your back

Triumph over the "giant"

Commitment

B.L.E.S.S ~ **B**egin with prayer. **L**isten with care. **E**at or engage with others. **S**erve together.
Share your story.



Start 2021 by **listening** with care to someone who is struggling with the intent to understand what they are feeling.

Create an "I will..." statement of something you can do this week to live out one of the areas from our study. "I will _____."

Continue Digging Deeper

1. In I Samuel 17 we find David standing firm on who he knew God to be. What do you know about the character of God? For the next 3 days, learn about a name of God and/or a characteristic that He demonstrates so that the next time a circumstance or a person seeks to shake your faith, you can stand firm on what you know. Read the verse(s) and write down what stands out to you.

- JEHOVAH-RAAH or ROHI (The Lord is my Shepherd) - Psalm 23, John 10:14-15
- God is JEHOVAH-NISSI (The Lord is my banner) - Under His banner, we have victory and we raise a banner to celebrate His faithfulness. I Corinthians 15:57, Psalm 20:5
- God is our COMFORTER. - Matthew 11:28-30, II Corinthians 1:3

Optional Resources:

- “Praying the Names of God & Attributes of God” by Navigators~ Search online by this title or use the link provided. There is a guide that you can download and print to use as a prayer guide for 30 days. (<https://www.navigators.org/resource/praying-names-attributes-god>)
- Use the Blue Letter Bible online resource to learn about the names of God found in the Bible.

2. Martin Luther King Jr. said, “Faith is taking the first step even when you can’t see the whole staircase”.

Have you ever found yourself in a situation where you aren’t exactly sure where God is leading or maybe you aren’t even sure what to do? David took the next step when facing Goliath, Moses took the next step in going to speak to Pharaoh trusting the Lord would give him the words to say (Exodus 4:10-16), Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego trusted God no matter what the outcome when faced with the decision to bow to the King or stay loyal to God (Daniel 3) and the list could go on. Hebrews 11 has a list of those who took a step of faith. They may not have known all the details of where they were going or what the outcome would be, but they trusted the One who was leading.

What does God’s Word say about our steps? Psalm 32:8, Proverbs 16:9, Galatians 5:25, Psalm 119:133. II Corinthians 5:7

What next step would you like to take in your relationship with God? Here are some options:

- Decide to make God King of your life and accept the gift of salvation. (John 3:16)
- Commit to attending church online weekly and then in person.
- Begin a volunteer role to serve at CCC
- Commit to joining a group at church.
- Learn what the B.L.E.S.S. curriculum is all about at CCC.
- Get baptized this year.
- Commit to reading the Bible every day and start a reading plan.
- Forgive someone who has deeply hurt you.
- Commit to memorizing scripture.
- Connect with others in your workplace, neighborhood, family, friend group and ask how you can pray for them during this time.
- Make gratitude a daily thing.
- Factor fun, joy and laughter into your day.

3. Mandisa’s song entitled “Overcomer” and Romans 8:37-39 states that “we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us”. Make a playlist of songs that speaks of how great God is and how we can trust Him. Choose songs that speak about the victory we have in Jesus and even though we may face big problems, we are loved and provided for by a mighty God.

A few to consider: Rend Collective - “Day of Victory”, Phil Wickham - “Battle Belongs”, Blanca - “What If”