



STUDY GUIDE

July 4, 2021

Message Series:
Message Title:
Teaching Pastor:

DAVID
The Battle is Not Yours
Elijah Schiarelli

Warm-up/Icebreaker:

We have all had underdog moments. These are times when the odds are stacked against us, we find ourselves ill-prepared, or see a long uphill battle in front of us. Describe one of yours.

Pray:

Dear Lord, we believe in Your power to protect us and choose to trust in You. You give us all that we need to stand firm in this world. Forgive us God for the times we've been unprepared, too busy to care, or trying to fight and wrestle in our own strength. Thank you that we never fight alone, for You are constantly at work on our behalf, shielding, protecting, strengthening us. In the powerful name of Jesus, Amen.

Get Started:

- Looking back over your life, what's the biggest giant/challenge you've had to face?

Read 1 Samuel 17:8-11.

- What is most intimidating to you about the way Goliath is described in these verses? How did the Israelites, including Saul their king, react when they saw Goliath?
- How had fear of Goliath spread throughout the people of Israel? How have you seen fear spread to others in your life?
- Think about the last trial you had to face. What overwhelmed your mind during that time—thoughts of the giant's power to destroy you or thoughts of God's victory through you?

"There aren't many things I can guarantee about this life, but here's one thing I can: you are either facing a giant in your life right now or will in the future. There is no way around it. And since it's not a matter of "if", but "when", then we'd best do what we can to prepare ourselves for it, and David's Goliath story of defeating the giant can help us get there." Pastor Elijah Schiarelli

Watch and Discuss Video:

"Like David, we have to come to terms with the fact that we can't face our giants on our own. **And that's okay.** Jesus said it this way in John 15, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." John 15:5 NIV David understood, both by looking behind at his past triumphs over the lion and the bear and looking ahead to his future struggle with Goliath that he couldn't do it alone. He needed a rescue. He needed God. So do we." Pastor Elijah Schiarelli

Read 2 Timothy 1:7.

- Why didn't David feel small in front of such a massive opponent (vv. 45-47)? When he walked out in front of Goliath, David never wavered in his faith. He fully believed his spiritual weapons were greater than the physical ones of his enemies.
- How would having that kind of faith change your approach to life?

Reflect and Commit:

Read Zechariah 4:6 & Romans 8:31.

- What are your "giants" (or giant) today? What is intimidating or defeating you? Is it something from your past or something that is in your path today (bills, anxiety, depression, a demanding boss, an addiction, past abuse, _____)?
- How has facing challenges allowed you to understand God's power?

Read 2 Chronicles 20:15.

"We say it all the time around here: God is always working. He is always working, and when we have confidence that God can do it, and humility to admit we can't without Him, then we'll have the tools we need to step out with COURAGE and face our giants." Pastor Elijah Schiarelli

Pray:

Dear Lord, many of us are facing giants and know others are as well. Life is tough and we're all fearful in some way. It's Your strength we need. We pray for humility, confidence and courage to faithfully walk with You in the midst of struggle. Thank You for the reminder that the battle is not ours, that we can trust that You will work all things together for good for those who love You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.