

Mindset

Story: David was a shepherd. Sheep are notoriously dumb animals; they are nearly blind and defenseless. A shepherd has one job: make sure the sheep don't die. It's not a complicated job. Back in the day they probably had a lot of idle time on their hands. We know David had a sling...and most likely, a lot of time. Envision David, stone after stone after stone at 10 yards, at 20 yards, at 30 yards. He probably played games to see how far away he could hit a target. When the time came, he had extreme confidence in himself to kill Goliath. Think about it, no man or boy (in David's case) would have accepted a life or death duel and think they would lose!

King Saul, however, tried to get David to play out of position. He gave him his armor and sword to fight with. But, David kept the right mindset and played to his strength. David took his sling and five smooth stones and RAN to the point where he knew he could hit Goliath's head 10 times out of 10! David's mindset was clear, he was prepared, and knew he would win the fight.

Questions to consider:

How do you interpret challenges, setbacks, and disappointments in your life?

Do you believe everything in life has a reason? If so, what do you think some of the reasons might be?

Does your attitude going into a game change depending upon the opponent?

How do you get your mind right?

Context: Saul is the King of Israel; however, it has become evident that he is not cut out to lead God's people due to his lack of faith and obedience to God. God's heart is grieved and in I Samuel 16, David is anointed by Samuel as Israel's next king because he is a "man after God's own heart". The Israelites find themselves terrorized by a Philistine named Goliath. Fear keeps them from moving forward. They need a leader full of faith who will lead them forward.

Scripture: I Samuel 17

1. Is it normal to be fearful when facing a "Giant"?
2. How was David able to stand up to the "Giant" when others ran in fear?
3. What was David's motivation to step out, stand up, and fight?
4. When do you think David won the battle with the "Giant"?
5. How did David's courage affect those around him?

Key Verse: “The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.” I Samuel 17:37

Anchor to remember:

- Be Prepared
- Believe you can win
- Run to the Battle