

Mindset

Challenge: David was a shepherd. Sheep are notoriously dumb animals, they are nearly blind and completely defenseless. A shepherd only has one job: make sure the sheep don't die. It's not complicated. Shepherds probably had a lot of idol time on their hands. We know from the story David had a sling...and most likely, a lot of time. Envision David, rock after rock after rock 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 must have had extreme confidence in himself to kill Goliath. Think about it, no man or boy (in David's case) would ever accept a life or death dual and think he would surely 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. He played to his known strength. David took only his sling and five smooth stones and RAN right to the distance he knew he could sink that stone in Goliath's head 10 times out of 10 and he let it fly! David's mindset was clear. He 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?

What's going on: Saul is the King of Israel; however, it has become evident that he is not cut out to lead God's people due of 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.

Game Time: 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:

- Run to the Battle