

## Background to 1 Samuel 17

When God commanded Saul to completely destroy the Amalekites for their wickedness, Saul disobeyed God because, in his pride, he thought he knew better than God. So, God rejected him as Israel's king and God's Spirit left him. Then, God chose David as Israel's king and his Spirit came upon David. As an evil/harmful spirit is tormenting Saul, his servants found David to play the harp so that Saul can feel better. After this, David served Saul once in a while.

### Icebreaker

- a) Is honour something important in your culture?  
What kind of person is worthy of honour?

### Pray

Ask God to help us understand, accept and obey His word even when it is challenging or hard.

### Read 1 Samuel 17 (map in the back)

- As the Philistines and Israelites prepared for battle, how was Goliath described? (v.4-6)
- What is Goliath's challenge to the Israelites? How did the Israelites react? (v.8-11)
- Who is David? (v.12-15, 20) How does he look compared to Goliath?
- When David showed an interest in the battle, how did Eliab (his brother), Saul, and Goliath react? What were David's responses?

**Pitched:** to set up and fix in position  
**Cubit/Shekel/Ephah:** Ancient measurement  
**Weaver:** A person who makes clothes  
**Subjects:** servants of a ruler  
**Defy:** openly resist, challenge  
**Dismayed:** discouraged  
**Uncircumcised:** irreligious; spiritually impure (or lit. person with foreskin)  
**Conceited:** extremely proud of self  
**Carcasses:** dead bodies  
**Strewn:** scattered/spread messily

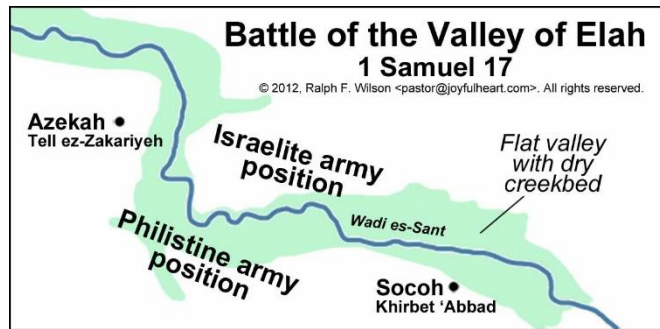
Their view of David		David's response?	What is their focus?	What is David's focus
Eliab (v.26-30):				
Saul (v.31-40):				
Goliath (41-47):				

5. Compared to the Israelites, who did David put his faith in during his times of trouble (when facing fierce animals and Goliath)? (v.34-37, 45-47)
  - a. What is the result of putting faith in themselves/weapons vs. God? (v.11, 24, 32, 45)
  - b. If there is a living God who is able to help David gain victory over Goliath (who is so much stronger and well-equipped), do you think this living God is someone worth trusting in? Why or why not?
  
6. How many times is the word “defy/defiance/defied” used? How does this help you see what motivates David’s main concern in this chapter?
  
7. What are some ways that you have seen God’s honour at risk or being mocked?
  - a. Why do you think people dishonour God?
  - b. **Read 1 John 4:9-10 and Jeremiah 10:12.** Do you think this God is worthy to be worshipped and honoured? Why or why not?
 

*This is how God showed his love among us. He sent his one and only Son into the world. He sent him so we could receive life through him. Here is what love is. It is not that we loved God. It is that he loved us and sent his Son to give his life to pay for our sins. -1 John 4:9-10*

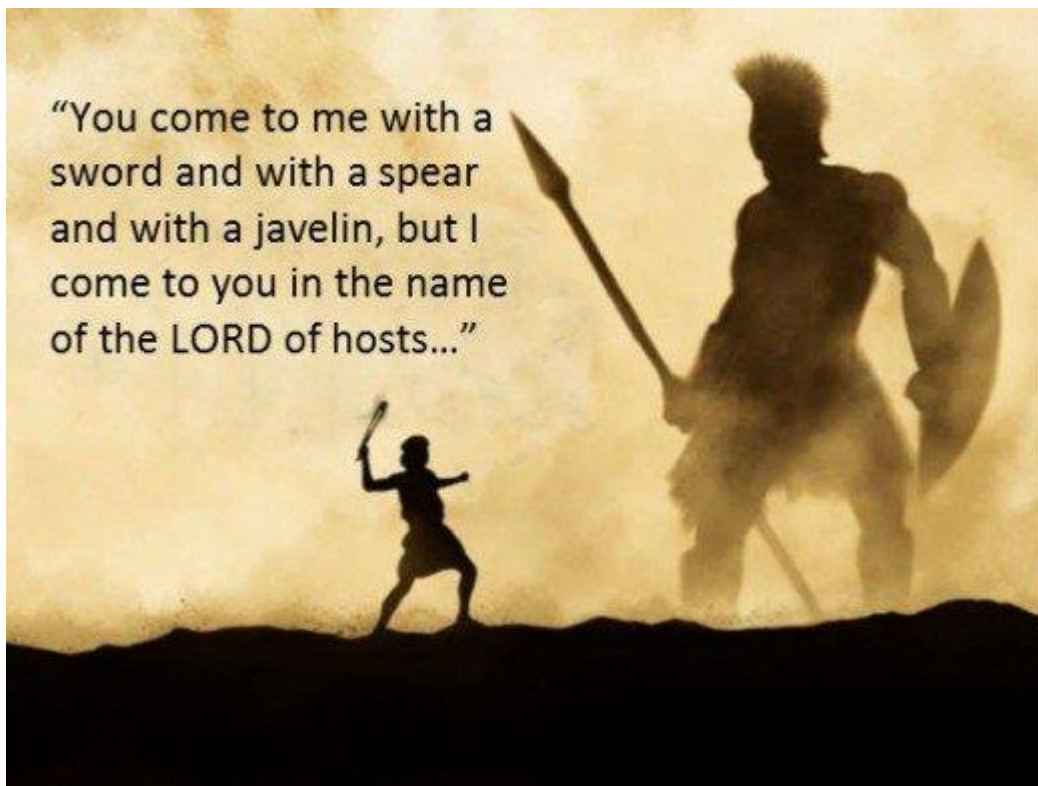
*But God made the earth by his power; he founded the world by his wisdom and stretched out the heavens by his understanding. –Jeremiah 10:12*
  - c. If yes, how do you think you should honour God? If not, what is stopping you from giving God honour?

Talk Notes





BIBLE STUDIES 2018



*David's faith, God's glory*

**1 Samuel 17**