



# LIFEGROUPS

Sermon Series: *Courage*

Scripture: 1 Samuel 17

Date: September 1 & 2, 2018

Message: *The Source of Courage*

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## —[ LET'S START ]—

Last week Pastor Brian inspired us to prayerfully consider how we could be on mission for Jesus and serve him right here at Wooddale Church. Did you go online and check out [wooddale.org/serve](http://wooddale.org/serve)? What area of ministry service piqued your interest? In joining the thoughts of this new series on courage with ideas from the recent series on overcoming, pray to be a courageous overcomer, selecting to serve Jesus wherever you may be. What might that look like?

## —[ LET'S TALK ]—

1. Select the person with the birthday closest to today and have that person read aloud 1 Samuel 17:4-11. Goliath appeared to be Israel's unbeatable giant! Goliath was physically intimidating to the soldiers, but Pastor Dale pointed out that what we perceive as an unbeatable giant may come in a variety of forms. Find the person in the group who has the birthday closest to yours and share some thoughts about the "unbeatable giants" that people face today. What makes them seem unbeatable?
2. Pastor Dale pointed out that what a person is facing may be a real obstacle, but the illusion is believing that whatever we are facing is the biggest obstacle to victory and hope. The greatest giant a person may actually be facing could be themselves! What is a strategy one could use to view the situation from a different perspective?
3. When David stepped up to meet Goliath's challenge to *single combat*, he was confident that God would rescue him and the people of Israel. David went to battle Goliath in an unconventional way – he used his sling. Pastor Dale recommended to stop thinking so conventionally and face our giants, realizing we already have the victory in Christ. David was skilled with the sling. What skill or talent do you have that God could use in an unconventional way?

—[ LET'S ACT ]—

Don't let your giant define the terms of the battle! You beat giants by fighting them in unconventional ways they don't expect.

What giants are you facing?

- Is it failure? Look past it and accept that through Christ's victory you're forgiven.
- Is it death? Look past it and accept the fact that death has become a doorway to God's presence – it is why He came to rescue you.
- Is it physical suffering that you've asked God healing for but He has chosen not to heal you? The Apostle Paul looked at his giant "thorn in his flesh", and after asking God three times to remove it, he accepted God's will that it served the purpose of demonstrating God's power as he depended more greatly upon Him!

—[ SERMON REVIEW ]—

- 1 Samuel 17. The Philistine champion, Goliath, repeatedly challenged Israel's army to *single combat*. Israel's shoulders were intimidated by Goliath and viewed him as an unbeatable giant.
- What is perceived as an "unbeatable giant" may come in many forms. However, it may be an illusion to believe that what one is facing is the biggest obstacle to victory and hope. Often the greatest giant one is facing is oneself.
- David is confident that God will rescue him and the people of Israel.
- God may call us to use an unconventional approach to deal with our giants like David when he used just a sling in his battle with Goliath.

—[ NOTES ]—

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