



Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

Teen Heroes of the Bible Series, Lesson 16

Lesson Title: David: The Little Guy Who Sees a Big God

Take Home Point: God is bigger than the size of your problems.

Warm-Up:

How big is your God? Are there limits to what he can do? Deep in your soul, do you believe God can do *anything*, including give you the strength to do anything? A few years ago, an acquaintance of mine experienced several very difficult situations in succession. At one point, this person mentioned Matthew 19:26 and said, "That's not really true; all things aren't really possible with God." I was sad to hear those words; since my friend could not depend on God for everything, he could not depend on God for anything, for who was then to say what God could and could not do? I know I often fail in my battles of life, but it's not because I don't believe God can do anything. It is because I chose to give up or to turn away from his power to overcome. I know exactly where the shortcoming lies – it is with me, not my truly big God.

Read: 1 Samuel 17; Psalm 105:4

Observation (What happened?):

Why did David go into battle with Goliath?

In whose name and strength did David fight?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

What lesson can we learn from David not using standard armor and weapons against Goliath?

How had God specifically prepared David for this battle?

Insight:

David did not use armor to face Goliath – nothing King Saul made available was fitted for him. It actually would have slowed David down and made him ineffective against the enemy he faced. That's true for us, too. When we face our spiritual enemy, we need the right armor and weapons. Human wisdom and strength just won't do. Fortunately, exactly what we need is recorded in Ephesians 6:13-18, *"Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests."* (NIV) Truth, righteousness, the gospel of peace, faith, our unshakable salvation, the powerful word of God, and prayer – our big God has given us all these to fight the enemies of our souls.

Application (What does it mean to me?):

What battle do you need to fight that is yours and no one else's? How has God prepared you for it? What weapons will you use? How will you demonstrate your trust in God's strength?

Kingdom Quest year 2