


## The Life of David Part 2: David & Goliath

# TALKINGPOINTS WALKINGPOINTS

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A publication of , the adult discipleship ministry of Triangle Community Church.

**Talk** together about the glory of God's kingdom. —*Psalm 145:11*  
Love the Lord your God and **walk** in all his ways. —*Joshua 22:5*

Triangle Community Church aims to be a "transforming church". We exist to be used by God as He transforms ordinary people into extraordinary followers of Jesus Christ. TCC believes not only that life-change is possible—but that it is to be expected. Growth is God's will for his people. But transformation does not happen by accident. It requires intentional, intelligent, action. 1 Timothy 4:7 instructs you to "discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness." Since "**Talking Points, Walking Points**" is intended both for individual reflection and for group discussion, questions vary in degree of vulnerability required. Generally it is best to begin group discussions with questions which involve less personal disclosure—but don't linger there. Be sure to "dive deep" too! The questions which require the greatest openness and honesty, as well as those in the section entitled "**Digging Deeper in your Daily Quiet Time**", are perfect for private reflection.

## Questions for Reflection

- Who do you know personally who ridicules or scoffs at the things of God? Tell us about him/her.  
Tell us about a time when you "stood up for" the things of God (such as righteousness, truth, etc.). How did it go? Did you stand alone, or did others join you too? What was the outcome?
- When someone ridicules the things of God, what upsets you more: God's reputation or yours?
- Pastor Doug explained the geographic and technological advantage the "godless Philistines" had. How do you assess the "lay of the land" in America today? Who's got the advantage—God or evil?
- Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-31. Make a list of all the things which are **contrasted** in this passage. Who appears to be winning at the moment? Are you OK with that? **Why or why not?**

Read Hebrews 11:32-38. Notice the **contrast** between two groups: those in v. 32-35 and those in v. 36-38. Notice the **similarity** between them (v. 39). Are you OK with this? **Why or why not?**

You can learn to live for God's glory...  
For free hope and help, write to:  
[counseling@tcc.org](mailto:counseling@tcc.org)

## Application-Challenge

Trust in God's strength and choose to defend the territory God has entrusted to you... whether it be your own purity, your marriage and family, or biblical truth and morality.

**Take One Step:** What is one small, concrete step of obedience you will put into practice this week?



## Sermon Summary

In this message we discover the source of David's courage in facing the Philistine giant named Goliath. David's courage in the face of overwhelming odds challenges us to courageously defend God's honor in a deteriorating culture. These are not fairy tales. They really happened—you can visit these places today. These Bible stories weren't written just to inspire people; they were recorded because they are real historical events. We'll see that the story of David and Goliath is not so much about who David is fighting, but rather what David is fighting for (1 Samuel 17).

It is a classic face-off, with the good guys on one side, and the bad guys on the other. It seems to me that neither side really wanted to fight, because this staring stalemate went on for forty days. But eventually, someone has to blink. The Philistines proposed a solution to this standoff: instead of thousands of people dying, let's each send out one champion to fight on behalf of the entire army. The Philistine champion, Goliath, was over nine feet tall! His bronze coat of mail weighed 125 pounds. This is the guy who came out and taunted Israel's army day after day for forty days!

The battle was in the Valley of Elah. The Philistines knew that if they controlled the Valley, they would have easy access into the heart of the Israelite kingdom. The Valley of Elah was an important economic trade route. Controlling it allowed the unimpeded flow of exports and imports. And so protecting this area was critical to Israel's economy. The Philistines already controlled the two key cities which guarded the entrance to the Valley of Elah. A win here would put them in control the entire valley—which was the key to maintaining Israel's security and way of life. So there is a lot riding on how this battle between the Israeli's and the Philistines resolves itself. As important as these factors are, they are not the focus of the Biblical narrative.

David was driven to challenge this Philistine champion for a different reason: Goliath had dishonored Israel's God. And that's one thing David would not tolerate. Six times in 1 Samuel 17 Goliath taunted God and his army (see v. 10, 25, 26 [2x], 36, 45.) Goliath's blasphemous defiance of Israel's God is what ticked David off! Let me ask you a question: Does it bug you when belief in God is ridiculed in society? It should! It sure bothered David. It was David's consuming passion that God be honored, that led him to take on an opponent who from a worldly perspective, he had no business facing. But the situation was even worse. The Philistines were skilled in metallurgy. They had iron weaponry—advanced technology for that time. Only King Saul and his son Jonathon had swords, no one else in the Israeli army had them (1 Samuel 13:19-20; 17:38-40). Talk about an ill equipped army! Goliath comes to the battle dressed like Iron Man—and David shows up with just a slingshot!

The question I want to ask you is this: Where did David get the courage to fight someone like Goliath? Saul was no help (see v. 33). I understand David a bit; when I informed friends and family that I was going to start a church fresh out of seminary, I didn't get many votes of confidence. They voiced some valid concerns, but Susan and I had been trusting God for years, and we had no doubts that he would provide for us as we planted this church. So I ask again, "Where did David get the courage to fight someone like Goliath?" It all came down to David's view of God. He had a big view of God. David knew that God himself was concerned about his glory and reputation. God was neither indifferent to Goliath's slurs nor intimidated by Goliath's size. But for David, God's power wasn't just something he had read about in the Scriptures. He had personally experienced it (1 Samuel 17:34-37).

Sometimes, like David, we sense that God is calling us to take a stand for Him in a culture that mocks God and those who follow him. And in those times, we face our own fears, our own giants. In those times, remember that you serve a big God—a God who has chosen you and equipped you to represent him in the world. He has given you the same Holy Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead. That means that you're not just bringing your limited human resources into the battle. David realized this was a battle for God's honor and for the preservation of God's people. God loves to use the weak things of the world, the despised things, to shame and defeat the strong and arrogant. Don't ever underestimate what God can accomplish through someone whose heart is fully His. David didn't have the size or the experience, or the equipment to match Goliath. But he had one thing Goliath didn't have—God's help! There is "territory" that God is asking you to protect and defend. Your purity is a territory that God wants you to protect. If you are married, God wants you to protect your marriage. God wants parents to protect the territory of their families. Our culture will not help you raise children who honor and serve God. We all need to defend and protect a biblical truth and morality. Will you take a courageous stand and defend these territories that God has entrusted to you? We serve a big God. He loves to use the weak things and the despised things to shame the strong. He wants to use you. Will you let him?

## Digging Deeper in Your Daily Quiet Time

"Five Question Bible Study" (see page to the left) is a simple way to study any passage.

Let's use it to learn about living for the glory of God.

But—God IS glorious—so how can we ADD to his glory? Let's see...

**Monday**— Study 1 Corinthians 10:31 & Philippians 1:9-11

**Tuesday**— Study Joshua 7:19 & Revelation 16:9

**Wednesday**— Study John 14:13 & Exodus 33:18

**Thursday**— Study 1 Corinthians 16:18-20

**Friday**— Study Philippians 2:9-11

**Saturday**— ***In preparation for worshipping your risen Lord tomorrow with your church family,*** study 1 Samuel 20.

Need blank copies for doing more

"Five Question Bible Study"?

e-mail: [Dan.Clement.TCC@gmail.com](mailto:Dan.Clement.TCC@gmail.com)

Bible Text: 1 Corinthians 10:31 & Philippians 1:9-11

Date: May 14, 2018



What idea particularly strikes me from this text? [Note in which verse(s) is it found.]



What question does this text raise in my mind—and how would **this text** answer it?



What about Jesus Christ—his character and/or his redemption—relates to this text?



What action must I take as a result of this text? Be concrete and specific.



With whom will I share what I learned from this text?