

How to Become a Giant Leader for God – Part 2

1 Samuel 17

1. Here we have the well-known story of David fighting the Philistine giant, Goliath. It is one of the most well-known and well-loved stories in God's Word.
2. God's people were once again at war with their chief enemies, the Philistines (vs. 3). The pride of the Philistine's army was a giant by the name of Goliath. vs. 4-7
 - He was somewhere between 9 and 10 feet tall, he had a bronze coat of mail, bronze greaves, bronze javelin, a spear with an iron spearhead, and a huge sword.
 - What a sight he must have been. He must have appeared invincible.
3. For 40 days, this behemoth monster challenged Israel to send out their best man and fight him for all the marbles. vs. 8-10, 16
4. There wasn't a man in Israel's army that was one bit interested in doing hand-to-hand combat with Goliath. There were no takers to Goliath's offer. vs. 11
5. David, the shepherd boy, ends up showing up on the scene, overhears Goliath, takes the challenge, and drops the giant with a bull's-eye from his sling, right between the eyes.
6. David is referred to as a youth (vs. 33, 42), but before that day was over, David had proved that he was a **man**—a man of God, a giant leader for God. Of course, David would go on to become the mightiest king in Israel's history.
7. God is looking for men and women who will dare to stand up and be giant leaders for Him. Goliath said, "... *give me a man* (vs. 10)." God is saying the same thing today (Ezekiel 22:30). Spiritual wimps that blend in with Satan's world system are a dime a dozen.
8. Every believer can become a giant leader for God. 1 Corinthians 16:13; Ephesians 6:10; 2 Timothy 2:1
9. How can we become giant leaders for God? Let's look at David.

First, David loved God more than he feared Goliath.

Second, David did not allow criticism to discourage him.

Third, David recognized that there was a cause worth fighting for.

1. When David heard Goliath, he said, "*who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?*"
2. David's oldest brother overheard him and proceeded to jump all over his little brother (vs. 28). Sounds to me like Eliab was dealing with some guilt over his lack of courage to go and fight Goliath!
3. David looked his brother in the eye and exclaimed, "*What have I now done? Is there not a cause?*" Then David began to look at everybody else that was watching, and he asks them the same question, "*Is there not a cause?*"
4. Is there not a reason to stand up, be a man, and fight against this giant? Leaders for God realize that there is a cause worth fighting for.

5. Satan is our enemy and he desires to blind people from the gospel of Christ, and cause them to suffer eternal condemnation. 2 Corinthians 4:4
 - Paul realized that our struggle today is over the lost souls of men and women who desperately need Christ. 1 Corinthians 9:22-24, 26
 - Paul is basically saying in these verses, “There is a cause, and I’m committed to it.”
6. Paul constantly encouraged his son in the faith, Timothy, to also be committed to the cause and to fight for it. 1 Timothy 1:18, 6:12; 2 Timothy 2:3
 - At the end of Paul’s life, Paul wrote these words (2 Timothy 4:7). Paul was saying, “I’ve been faithful to the cause.”
 - Leaders for God recognize that there is a cause, and they are faithful to fight for the cause even if it means personal sacrifice. Acts 20:24
7. As we look around at America today and we see the spiritual state of our society and culture, I ask you, “Is there not a cause?” Is there not a reason to stand up for God, and be totally committed to the work of God and the preaching of God’s grace?
8. The answer to this world is not found in education, computer technology, religion, more government-funded programs, or a stronger economy. None of these get to the root of the problem.
9. The answer is a transformation of people’s hearts and lives. This will only come through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. We have to get the gospel to people.
 - God **formed** the world, sin **deformed** it, and only Christ can **transform** it.
10. We aren’t here to just “play church.” We are in a battle for the souls of people. There is a cause, and leaders for God, like David, realize this and they respond to it.

Fourth, David knew where victory was to be found.

1. King Saul tried to get young David fit for the battle as best he could (vs. 38). David must have looked hilarious wearing Saul’s armour. Finally, David takes it off and says, “Thanks, but no thanks.” vs. 39-40
2. When Goliath saw the man that Israel sent out to fight, Goliath was quite insulted. vs. 41-44
3. I absolutely love David’s response to Goliath. vs. 45-47
 - David said, “You’re going down, big fella, and I’m going to cut your head off and feed your body to the vultures.”
 - But what was the source of David’s confidence? Look at the verses closely.
4. David knew that his source of victory was not in Saul’s armour, nor in a sword, a spear, or a shield. His faith was not in his rocks or sling. He knew they were just tools. David knew that his source of victory was in His God, the living God!
5. David was right! Goliath was mighty and powerful, but he was no match for David’s God. vs. 48-51
6. As we said earlier, we aren’t fighting physical giants today, but we are facing a mighty foe in the god of this world system (Satan). 1 Peter 5:8

7. He desires to discourage and destroy the believer on earth, and condemn lost sinners to an eternal lake of fire. We are in a battle. Where is the source of our victory? 1 Corinthians 15:57; Philippians 4:13; Romans 8:37; Ephesians 6:10; 1 John 4:4, 5:4-5
8. Our victory is in the Lord Jesus Christ. He is our victory! As we yield to Him and place our total faith and trust in Him, we simply rest in the victory that He has already won on the cross over Satan.
9. You can be a giant leader for God. You can impact other souls for Christ and lead others to Christ. Your life can have true eternal impact. How can you become that giant leader for God? The same way David did.
 - Love God more than you fear people.
 - Don't allow criticism to discourage you.
 - Recognize that there is a cause worth fighting for.
 - Rely totally on Christ for the victory.