David’s recipe for victory

**Experience how to win your victory**

**Monday**

Read 1 Samuel 17:1-11

To have victory you need an enemy bigger than you, that threatens you with danger. **Journalize** what threats you are facing.

**Tuesday**

Read 1 Samuel 17:12-15, 1 Samuel 16:1-13

You are ripe for victory when you are the smallest, least significant, a no-name with no hope of advancement. **Pray** that God would show you His victory today.

**Wednesday**

Read 1 Samuel 17:16-25, 1 John 4:4, 2 Timothy 1:7, Philippians 4:13, Isaiah 43:2, Isaiah 54:14-15

If you hear the enemy threatening you all the time, it means he is scared of who is in you. He won’t advance against you because he can’t. **Meditate** on this truth.

**Thursday**

Read 1 Samuel 17:26-37

Your victory comes in degrees. Take up the spiritual battles you’ve been ignoring. Spend time **talking** to God today and **refocus**.

**Friday**

Read 1 Samuel 17:38-58, John 10:10, Galatians 5:25, Romans 12:9, 1 John 3:8

Your spiritual enemies are God’s enemies, so your battles are God’s battles. **Meditate** in rest today as you let God fight for you.

David's recipe for victory

**Lessons on victory from the story of David and Goliath**

**1 Samuel 17 New International Version (NIV)**

**17**Now the Philistines gathered their forces for war and assembled at Sokoh in Judah. They pitched camp at Ephes Dammim, between Sokoh and Azekah.

You can’t have victory without the threat of danger.

To be victorious, you have to have something to beat…cancer, divorce, phobia, lack of income, eminent loss of security

Don’t look for danger, use what you already have facing you.

**2**Saul and the Israelites assembled and camped in the Valley of Elah and drew up their battle line to meet the Philistines. **3**The Philistines occupied one hill and the Israelites another, with the valley between them.

Victory is right around the corner when the battle lines are drawn and your enemy is right across the valley…so close you can hear him, you can see the aggressive look on His face, you can sense His evil intentions.

**4**A champion named Goliath, who was from Gath, came out of the Philistine camp. His height was six cubits and a span.(9 ft, 9 inches tall) **5**He had a bronze helmet on his head and wore a coat of scale armor of bronze weighing five thousand shekels (125 lbs) ;**6**on his legs he wore bronze greaves, and a bronze javelin was slung on his back.**7**His spear shaft was like a weaver’s rod, and its iron point weighed six hundred shekels. (15 Ibs) His shield bearer went ahead of him.

For victory to be victory you need an enemy bigger than you. A massive impossibility, something for which you have no answers, something that humanly speaking you can’t beat. You can’t see over it, around it or through it.

**8**Goliath stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, “Why do you come out and line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not the servants of Saul? Choose a man and have him come down to me. **9**If he is able to fight and kill me, we will become your subjects; but if I overcome him and kill him, you will become our subjects and serve us.” **10**Then the Philistine said, “This day I defy the armies of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other.” **11**On hearing the Philistine’s words, Saul and all the Israelites were dismayed and terrified.

You know you are on the threshold of victory when all you can hear is your enemy screaming in your ear day and night, telling you that you are going to lose and your situation isn’t going to change.  You really know that victory is on its way when your enemy defies and questions your Jesus, God’s power, His love for you and His prosperous intentions for you.

**12**Now David was the son of an Ephrathite named Jesse, who was from Bethlehem in Judah. Jesse had eight sons, and in Saul’s time he was very old.**13**Jesse’s three oldest sons had followed Saul to the war: The firstborn was Eliab;the second, Abinadab; and the third, Shammah. **14**David was the youngest. The three oldest followed Saul, **15**but David went back and forth from Saul to tend his father’s sheep at Bethlehem.

You know that victory is ripe for you when you are the youngest, the smallest, most insignificant, obscure, a no-name, with what appear to be responsibilities that aren’t going to advance you anywhere.

**16**For forty days the Philistine came forward every morning and evening and took his stand.

Victory is yours when you hear your circumstances taunt you every morning when you wake up, drag you down throughout the day as you are virtually incapacitated, and plagued with worry so that you can’t even sleep at night.

**17**Now Jesse said to his son David, “Take this ephah (36 lbs) of roasted grain and these ten loaves of bread for your brothers and hurry to their camp. **18**Take along these ten cheeses to the commander of their unit. See how your brothers are and bring back some assurance from them. **19**They are with Saul and all the men of Israel in the Valley of Elah, fighting against the Philistines.”

Victory is sure for you when everyone asking you for some glimpse of good news and you know that you can’t give them any. People who don’t have much hope are going to surround you asking for a glimmer of hope. Be a fountain of hope to those around you….receive, receive, receive from God so that His word can spring up within you for others.

**John 7:38 New International Version (NIV)**

**38**Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.”

**20**Early in the morning David left the flock in the care of a shepherd, loaded up and set out, as Jesse had directed. He reached the camp as the army was going out to its battle positions, shouting the war cry. **21**Israel and the Philistines were drawing up their lines facing each other. **22**David left his things with the keeper of supplies, ran to the battle lines and asked his brothers how they were. **23**As he was talking with them, Goliath, the Philistine champion from Gath, stepped out from his lines and shouted his usual defiance, and David heard it. **24**Whenever the Israelites saw the man, they all fled from him in great fear.

Victory is in the air when everyone runs away terrified and you are left standing there awe struck and entranced by the size of the enemy standing in front of you. Let something rise up within you when everyone else is terrified and hopeless…*be numb to fear and deaf to hopelessness*.

1 John 4:4 New International Version (NIV)

**4**You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

2 Timothy 1:7 21st Century King James Version (KJ21)

**7**For God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

Philippians 4:13 Evangelical Heritage Version (EHV)

**13**I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me.

**25**Now the Israelites had been saying, “Do you see how this man keeps coming out? He comes out to defy Israel.

Victory starts to dawn on you when you begin to question, why does this mighty giant just talk and never act? Is it possible that this giant is scared of something in me? Is His primary strength in His mouth? Could he actually be taken down? Is it possible that my God is stronger than He is and God’s Spirit could silence Him so I don’t have to hear Him anymore?

The king will give great wealth to the man who kills him. He will also give him his daughter in marriage and will exempt his family from taxes in Israel.”

**26**David asked the men standing near him, “What will be done for the man who kills this Philistine and removes this disgrace from Israel? Who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?”

*Victory becomes real when you start making plans to attack your enemy because you realize your enemy is God’s enemy.* You tell yourself, I’m not a victim of this loudmouth and greater is He that is in me that he that is in the world. This battle is not even mine, the battle is the Lord’s.

You begin to see your enemy as a disgrace to you, to your family, to those you love, to the body of believers and something begins to rise up in you. You decide to make war against your enemy.

You start catching glimpses of scriptural aggression:

**Isaiah 43:2 New International Version (NIV)**

**2**When you pass through the waters,

    I will be with you;

and when you pass through the rivers,

    they will not sweep over you.

When you walk through the fire,

    you will not be burned;

    the flames will not set you ablaze.

**Isaiah 54:14-15 New International Version (NIV)**

**14**In righteousness you will be established:

Tyranny will be far from you;

    you will have nothing to fear.

Terror will be far removed;

    it will not come near you.

**15**If anyone does attack you, it will not be my doing;

    whoever attacks you will surrender to you.

**27**They repeated to him what they had been saying and told him, “This is what will be done for the man who kills him.”

**28**When Eliab, David’s oldest brother, heard him speaking with the men, he burned with anger at him and asked, “Why have you come down here? And with whom did you leave those few sheep in the wilderness? I know how conceited you are and how wicked your heart is; you came down only to watch the battle.” **29**“Now what have I done?” said David. “Can’t I even speak?” **30**He then **turned away** to someone else and brought up the same matter, and the men answered him as before.

Your victory is going to have to find its way through nay-sayers, people who don’t believe in you, extinguishing negativity with godly positivity. There’ll be those who question your motives.

If victory came easily, everyone would be victorious.

 **31**What David said was overheard and reported to Saul, and Saul sent for him.

If you have even a whisper of hope, your light is going to shine so brightly, people will be attracted to you. Be the one person who believe God’s victory is for you.

**32**David said to Saul, “Let no one lose heart on account of this Philistine; your servant will go and fight him.”

Victory says, Even if I’m the only one, I will take responsibility, I’ll take the bull by the horns, I’ll stand up the the enemy.

- I’m going to fight for my unsaved family.

- I’m going to stand up in school and be counted as the only Christian.

- I’ll stand up at work.

- I’ll be the one to speak up on line for the cause of Christ.

**33**Saul replied, “You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him; you are only a young man, and he has been a warrior from his youth.”

Again, victory has to shut off opinions, human limitations and many times other people’s logic. If God has given victory into your hands, stop waiting around and go take what God has given you.

**34**But David said to Saul, “Your servant has been keeping his father’s sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, **35**I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. **36**Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. **37**The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine.”

Saul said to David, “Go, and the Lord be with you.”

Victory comes in degrees…if you aren’t willing shut off a bad movie or deny yourself over eating, how are you going to stand against demonic opposition in your loved one’s lives.

Start winning the basic small victories…**stop overlooking the battles God wants you to enter into** and be an overcomer. Each victory will build your spiritual confidence in Jesus.

Victory comes with a militant attitude.

What is the enemy trying to take from you or someone you care about? Your peace? Your health? A family member? Your faith? Chase down the enemy and take it back from him. Don’t let yourself be stolen from. If you start making violence on the kingdom of darkness, it is going to turn on you, you seize it, strike it and kill it…of course we are speaking in a spiritual sense.

**John 10:10 New International Version (NIV)**

**10**The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

**38**Then Saul dressed David in his own tunic. He put a coat of armor on him and a bronze helmet on his head. **39**David fastened on his sword over the tunic and tried walking around, because he was not used to them.

“I cannot go in these,” he said to Saul, “because I am not used to them.” So he took them off. **40**Then he took his staff in his hand, chose five smooth stones from the stream, put them in the pouch of his shepherd’s bag and, with his sling in his hand, approached the Philistine.

If you live by the standards of this world, you will also live within the limitations of this world. Live by God's standards and you'll live a limitless life!

**2 Corinthians 10:2 New International Version (NIV)**

**2**I beg you that when I come I may not have to be as bold as I expect to be toward some people who think that we live by the standards of this world.

Strip off earthly approaches and walk in the higher plane of the Spirit where all things are possible for those who believe.

Worldly approaches should feel uncomfortable to us.

I shouldn’t be used to constantly arguing to get my way, or playing mind games with people to make things happen, or turning a cold shoulder on my child or coworker if they don’t do what I want them to do…these are earthly and fleshly ways of doing things.

Remove these old ways of doing things from your life and start being Spirit-led.

**Galatians 5:25 New International Version (NIV)**

**25**Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

**41**Meanwhile, the Philistine, with his shield bearer in front of him, kept coming closer to David. **42**He looked David over and saw that he was little more than a boy, glowing with health and handsome, and he despised him. **43**He said to David, “Am I a dog, that you come at me with sticks?” And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. **44**“Come here,” he said, “and I’ll give your flesh to the birds and the wild animals!”

Victory comes when you finally realize the devil hates you so much. He wants to see you suffer, he wants you to lose what you love and he wants you dead…literally. And when you come to this realization and understand you will never be able to have a truce with him…**you’ll start hating him instead of fearing him**.

And you will say, *it either him or me and its not going to be me*.

In that very minute you will finally become victorious.

I hate child abuse, I what pornography does to women and men, I despise abortion, I loathe divorce, I despise oppression and meanness of selfish bosses and managers, I am angered by bullies at school, I hate the hopeless of sickness, handicap and injury. I hate homelessness, I hate how illicit sexual relationships demean people, making live far below where God wants them…we know that sex was God’s idea, intended only for marriage between a man and a woman.

So take up the torch and be victorious!

Romans 12:9 New International Version (NIV)

**9…**Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.

**1 John 3:8 New International Version (NIV)**

**8**...The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil’s work.

**45**David said to the Philistine, “You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.

When the enemy defies you as a Christian, He has defied God…and that doesn’t make God very happy.

**46**This day (there is victory for you every day of your life) the Lord will deliver you into my hands, and I’ll strike you down and cut off your head. This very day I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds and the wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel.

Its time to get aggressive with the enemy, his works and his intentions. Aggressive in prayer, aggressive in testimony, aggressive in voting against abortion-supporting politicians, politicians who are supporting violence in our cities who don’t back law and order.

**2 Timothy 4:3 New International Version (NIV)**

**3**For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear.

**47**All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the Lord saves; for the battle is the Lord’s, and he will give all of you into our hands.”

**48**As the Philistine moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet him. **49**Reaching into his bag and taking out a stone, he slung it and struck the Philistine on the forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell facedown on the ground.

What can David’s sling and stone be likened to?

It was simple, it was overlooked, it was natural to him…Prayer!

One simple, natural, overlooked prayer can slay your fear, the lies about yourself, your sickness, your failing marriage, your oppressive work situation, your addiction…start slinging your prayers toward your enemy every day and even multiple times a day.

**50**So David triumphed over (victory) the Philistine with a sling and a stone; without a sword in his hand he struck down the Philistine and killed him.

Your enemy has an identity, so give your enemy a name:

Fear, worry, phobia, panic attacks…call it what it is

Pain

Isolation and loneness

Lust

Joblessness

Hopelessness

Cancer or whatever disease

Distraction: the love of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, money, man’s praise, excessive video gaming, excessive eating, unhealthy relationship

 **51**David ran and stood over him. He took hold of the Philistine’s sword and drew it from the sheath. After he killed him, he cut off his head with the sword.

When the Philistines saw that their hero was dead, they turned and ran.

Victory has a domino effect…when one falls the rest of them begin to fall as well.

**52**Then the men of Israel and Judah surged forward with a shout and pursued the Philistines to the entrance of Gath and to the gates of Ekron. Their dead were strewn along the Shaaraim road to Gath and Ekron. **53**When the Israelites returned from chasing the Philistines, they plundered their camp.

One person’s victory, resulted in thousands of other’s victory. So stand up and be victorious!!!!

**54**David took the Philistine’s head and brought it to Jerusalem; he put the Philistine’s weapons in his own tent.

**55**As Saul watched David going out to meet the Philistine, he said to Abner, commander of the army, “Abner, whose son is that young man?”

Abner replied, “As surely as you live, Your Majesty, I don’t know.”

**56**The king said, “Find out whose son this young man is.”

**57**As soon as David returned from killing the Philistine, Abner took him and brought him before Saul, with David still holding the Philistine’s head.

How would you like to hold the lifeless head of your cancer, now no longer a threat.

Of fear..

Of loneliness

Of depression

Of hopelessness

Of lust

Of pain

Of your idol love

Of sleepless nights

**58**“Whose son are you, young man?” Saul asked him.

David said, “I am the son of your servant Jesse of Bethlehem.”

I’m the youngest son of a nobody and yet I am standing here before you victorious.