David & Goliath
4 Keys to Victory

Private trials always precede and prepare us for public victories.

1 Samuel 17
1 Samuel 17:1-3

Elah Valley, Israel

Elah Valley similar to Johnstown

Johnstown
1 Samuel 17:4-11

Robert Wadlow one of the tallest men in the world at 8’ 11”.

Goliath - 9’ 9”
1 Samuel 17:4-11

Goliath’s Challenge:  
*Single Combat*

- 9’ 9” tall
- Bronze helmet & shin guards
- Scaled armor weighed 175lbs
- Armed with a javelin, sword, & spear with a 20 lb head.
- Shield carrier went before him.
David accepts the challenge

- 1 Samuel 17: 32
- Where did David’s confidence come from?
- His private trials preceded and prepared him for this public challenge.
- 4 Keys to victory ...
4 Keys To Victory

1. **Obedient to his father** - David worked the family business; had his father’s heart. 1 Sam. 17:4

Obedience to the Father leads to faith in Jesus and creates within us “the heart of the Father”

> “this is the will of my Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life…” John 6:40

> “Children obey your parents in the Lord…” Eph. 6:1-3

Oh forgive us Lord, for so often we seek the things in your hand rather than the things of your heart. Anon
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2. **Faithful In Wilderness Experiences** - the *wild is dangerous*; it toughened David and prepared him for life’s bigger challenges. 1 Sam. 17:34

God allows wilderness experiences for our good, to strengthen and prepare us for life’s “giants.” The “wild” is dangerous and our choices have serious consequences.

“No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. But God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.” 1 Cor. 10:13

*Faith that cannot be tested is faith that cannot be trusted.* Greg Laurie
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3. **Courage to fight** - David rushed a bear to rescue a lamb from his jaws & then destroyed the threat. 1 Sam. 17:35

We must be courageous, fight against evil and rush to defend the vulnerable

“Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.” Joshua 1:9

“Open your mouth for the mute, for the rights of all the unfortunate. Open your mouth, judge righteously, and defend the rights of the afflicted and needy. Proverbs 31:8-10

*Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear; not absence of fear.*  Mark Twain
4 Keys To Victory

4. Confident Belief - David trusted God and believed he could win the fight. 1 Sam. 17:32, 45-47

We must trust God & confidently believe we can win everyday! Jesus said, “Don’t fear, only believe!” Mark 5:36

“Things that are impossible with people are possible with God.” Lk.18:27

God is looking for those with whom He can do the impossible — what a pity that we plan only the things that we can do by ourselves. A. W. Tozer

Whether you think you can or that you can’t — you’re right. Henry Ford
1 Samuel 17:41-51

David defeated Goliath!

Like David, God prepares us to be victors!

Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? 1 Jn. 5:5
4 Keys To Victory

Private trials always precede and prepare us for public victories.

1. Be **Obedient** to the Father’s will
2. Stay **Faithful** in wilderness experiences
3. Have **Courage** to fight for the vulnerable
4. Confidently **Believe** in God & yourself

“Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?” 1 John 5:5