

## *A HEART FOR GOD*

### LEARNING FROM THE LIFE AND POETRY OF DAVID, part 1

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#### **1 Samuel 17**

1. After reading this chapter, look back at verses 4–7 and describe Goliath and his armor.
2. What words does Goliath use to taunt the Israelites? (vss. 8–10) How long does he taunt them? (vs. 16)
3. Goliath offers a challenge to the Israelites to send one man to fight him instead of having the armies fight. How do Saul and the Israelites feel about this? (vss. 11, 24)
4. What are their reactions to Goliath based on?
5. What does Saul offer to the man who kills Goliath?
6. What is David's response when he hears Goliath and his taunts? Why do you think he responds like he does?
7. When you hear others speak against what's true and right or against God and his people, do you respond like David or like Saul? Explain.
8. What is the response of David's brother when he realizes that David wants to fight Goliath? (vs. 28) Why do you think he reacts that way?

9. How does David convince Saul to let him fight? (vss. 34–37) In whom does David's confidence lie? (vs. 37) What is his confidence based on?
  
10. Think of a time in your life when you faced something difficult or fearful, but you knew God had prepared you. How did God prepare you?
  
11. How did Saul try to help David in the fight against Goliath? (vs. 38) Was it a help? Why or why not. What weapon does David use to fight Goliath?
  
12. Compare what David says to Goliath in verses 45–47 to what Goliath says to the Israelites in verses 8–10. What does David know about the leader of the army of Israel that the Israelites have forgotten?
  
13. When facing your own battles in life, what or who do you look to for victory? Read Ephesians 6:10–18. What armor is available to those who believe in the living God? Think of a battle you are facing. How do you think God's armor will help you? (Hint: Who are we putting on? See Galatians 3:26–27)
  
14. How does David defeat Goliath? How does this encourage you in the struggles you are facing right now?
  
15. Have you ever had a David and Goliath experience? Share it if you feel comfortable.
  
16. Explain how David is like Jesus. For help, check out the following verses: Zechariah 4:6; John 1:11, 32–34; 2:17; Matthew 26:51–52; 1 Corinthians 15:57; Ephesians 5:2; Hebrews 2:14–15; 12:2. How does this encourage you?