



LIFE GROUPS DISCUSSION GUIDE

September 27, 2020

THE BATTLE IS THE LORD'S 1 Samuel 17

CONNECT

1. How well can you tell the story of David and Goliath from memory? Let one or two people try without opening your Bibles.

CELEBRATE

2. Read 1 Samuel 17:1–10. Discuss how it might feel to be in King Saul's army at this point. Why did no one in Israel take up Goliath's challenge?
3. Eliab was David's brother, yet spoke harshly to him out of his own fear (1 Samuel 17:28–30). Think back over the past six months. Whom have you spoken harshly to? Who has spoken harshly to you? How can you pursue healing in these relationships?
4. King Saul led spiritually as well as militarily, offering the platitude, "The Lord will be with you" (1 Samuel 17:37). However, Saul did not go down to battle himself, despite having the greater strength, prowess and experience in battle. David made a similar statement by saying, "The battle belongs to the Lord." Yet David charged down to the fight. Which of these men believed what they said? Why?
5. David becomes the savior of the moment. But God brings a greater Savior. How does David's victory point to Jesus' victory?
6. David's battle against Goliath is a small example in the greater battle of good against evil. Read Genesis 3:14–15. What does the battle of good against evil hinge upon? How do these verses point directly to both David and Goliath as well as the cross of Jesus Christ?
7. David drew confidence in his battle against Goliath because he knew God's greater victory. What challenges are you facing today? Pick one or two and talk about them together, putting them in their proper place in God's greater victory.
8. How is God faithful to David in this chapter? How does God display the truth of who He is? How do these truths about who God is affect your relationship with Him?
9. The battle is the Lord's and the greater Savior, Jesus, is with us now. Take time to pray this together: "Father, many enemies taunt me, but there are no greater than sin, death and the devil. Yet Jesus conquered them all. Therefore, I can have confidence as I face anything. I don't have to fear anything because I have a victorious king."

CONTRIBUTE

10. In 2020, we are surrounded by fears and challenges. As ambassadors for Christ, we have the opportunity put these challenges in proper perspective in terms of God's greater victory. How can you share this perspective with others? Think of a few people you know who are struggling. How could you walk this out with them? An example might be asking: What's causing fear in your life? Can I share with you the story of God's battle against evil and how that can give you hope?
11. David took charge, boldly advancing to a battle he knew he could win by God's strength. Look at your own life and community. What opportunities could you charge into? What needs aren't being met that you could meet? Make a list together and, knowing it's the Lord's battle, plan how you could meet these needs and challenges.