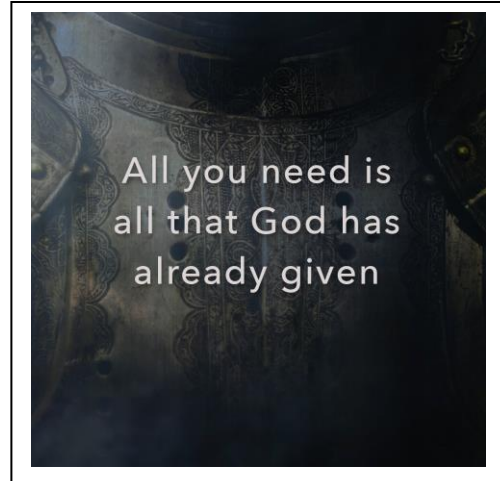


**SUNDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2023.**

**All That You Need**

**Scripture: 1 Sam 32-48.**

Today is the climax to the Bible story of David and Goliath. And if you listened to the scripture being read you hear there is a lot going on.



But there are three specific things I want us to highlight this morning regarding the call upon David's life to fight Goliath. I believe each of these things are crucial in our own lives as we seek to understand the call, the will, and the giftedness that God has given each and everyone here today.

**First Point: Block out the White Noise**

***The dictionary definition of white noise... "a type of noise that is produced by combining sounds of all different frequencies together."***

Have you ever been to an event and had trouble hearing and/or speaking to others, because the place was full of everyone talking and there may have been music in the background or a video playing in relation to the topic. This is when we say – I can't even hear myself think.

At the beginning of this passage, David declares that he will indeed go and fight Goliath. But as soon as he says this, Saul responds with these words: *"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."*

And his brothers and others standing nearby scoff at him – go home you are too inexperienced, too little, go tend to the sheep.

### **Sounds like voices that would hold you back, right?**

Last week we talked about those who will try to hold us back and look down upon us. There are many in our lives that, regardless of what we do, will try to keep us from where we need to go. This will often come in the form of doubt. Saul seemed to be looking down on David because of his youth. And so, what is David supposed to do with all of this? His brother won't have it, others simply ignore him, and Saul doesn't think he has any chance at success. But to David, this is all just "white noise" amid God's clear call and command.

You see, in a spiritual sense, there will be many voices around you begging for airtime in your life. If you aren't careful, you can get bogged down and overwhelmed by them. Therefore, it is so important that we "learn to discern" God's voice from others.

We must learn how to sort through the different voices in our life, with the help of the Holy Spirit. This requires us to ask certain questions of the voices we hear. For example, you could ask questions like, "Does this voice care about me? Is this a Godly voice? Does this voice hold wisdom?" It's questions like these that help us discern which voices to ultimately listen to and trust.

In David's life and story, it is clear from the next verse that he was able to shake off the words from Saul and others to stay focused on what God was

inviting him into. David is so focused on the task at hand, it gives other people confidence, he's oozing with it. You see, David's bravado comes from experience as a shepherd in the wilderness. He has seen God deliver him time and time again from wild beasts and he has no doubt that God will do it again in this present situation.

### **Second point: Remember Where You've Been.**

There are so many stories in the Bible of individuals being prepared for what was in their future by their present circumstance and suffering. Take Joseph, for example, in Genesis. He was falsely imprisoned in a foreign land, and yet ended up in the Egyptian palace. God was clearly on the move throughout Joseph's story, whether others could see it or not. In fact, the story of Joseph concludes with powerful words that reveal God's work in his life and story.

God was with Joseph all along just as God was with David all along. And the reality is the same for us today. Even in the seasons when you cannot feel it, God is with you. So even today, maybe the first step in learning to understand God's call upon your life is by looking backwards. There is a consistent command in scripture, especially in the Old Testament, to "remember."

Remembering where we have been gives us strength and confidence in where we are now. Seeing God work in and through our past gives us strength and confidence for whatever we face today. God's past faithfulness in our lives should encourage us to take more steps of faith.

What David held in his hands and heart was the collective memory of all that God had done. Before he ever picked up the stones and the sling, he already carried the memories of deliverance and triumph in his young life. David had the courage to fight Goliath because the Lord had already enabled him to kill a lion and a bear. So, you can see in the story that when Saul tries to weigh David down with new armor and a sword, David would have none of it.

### **Third Point: All that He Needed**

David did try to fit into the mold of a proper soldier, put on the helmet, armor and took up the sword. Then he tried to walk around in them. He quickly recognized that this new outfit wasn't going to work out for him in the battle. He was, just as he arrived, sufficiently prepared to face Goliath. He didn't need all that extra stuff, in fact, it would have just hindered him.

When we face battles that look impossible, we need to remember that the battle is the Lords. David fought Goliath but he was merely God's instrument. The battle was between Goliath and God. To fight like David, we need his kind of fearlessness.

Many of us are trying to fit into someone else's clothing, or story, or situation to better live our own or to gain acceptance and approval. But like David learned, we don't need all that. In fact, all that you presently have in your possession is all you need to sufficiently serve God. This principle reminds me of the time Jesus fed 5,000 people with a few loaves and some fish.

When the disciples began to worry about how to feed all the people, Jesus simply asked them to gather what they already had. Now obviously in this story Jesus performs a miracle and feeds thousands of people with five loaves of bread and 2 pieces of fish, but what if that's exactly what God is trying to teach us today through the story of David and Goliath?

God can take care of life's seemingly insurmountable problems. The battle is the Lord's, and we can overcome our giants when we know that God is in control. What if God is trying to help you see the miraculous things He can do in and through your life when you simply bring him the ordinary, everyday stuff you have to offer?

David put aside all the extra stuff Saul gave him and grabbed 5 stones and his sling. He added that to the faith he had developed over time serving God and his family in the wilderness and he walked out to battle Goliath.

Through all the white noise, through the doubt, through the fear and into victory. And all he had was all that God had already given him. It's powerful to start believing you already have all you need.

There are a lot of us here today who feel trapped in an endless loop of white noise. There are too many voices, too many options, too many experiences of shame - regret- and defeat for us to confidently move ahead in all God has for us.

If that sounds like you today, then I encourage you to do all you can to shut out the other things and simply focus on God. Try to have, like David did, a

singularly focused mind on the power and majesty of God. Try to become a person after the very heart of God.

Others of you have simply forgotten all God has done in your past to get you to where you are today. If that's you then please take some time to sit down and write out the miracles God has already worked on your behalf. Your testimony is your superpower... don't ever forget that.

And lastly, all of us need to stop looking at everything everyone else has access to and we need to focus on what God's given us to work with. You have gifts that are individual and unique to you... maybe it's time to pick them up and head into the victory God has for you.

You already have all you need.