

THE LIFE OF DAVID THE MESSAGE CONNECT

The Message Connect is a devotion that goes deeper into Sunday morning's message, intentionally connecting it to our lives throughout the week. Through a 15-20 minute video and discussion guide, we challenge everyone to go deeper in their faith because we believe growing people change for God's glory and their God-honoring life purpose.

WEEK TWO: GOLIATH

Go online to ringgoldchurch.com/themessageconnect to watch this week's Message Connect video.

Series Overview:

Every hero has flaws, even the ones we read about in the Bible. In the life of David—a king of Israel and a man after God's own heart—we see a hero with glimpses of greatness and wounds of pride. Through David's failures, challenges, and triumphs, we see a greater Hero. The hero was not David, but God Himself. God humbled David and pointed people back to the one, true, King.

Key Scriptures:

1 Samuel 17:1-58

Next Steps:

1. Start Talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

What is the best modern-day example of a David defeating a Goliath that you can recall?

2. Start Thinking. Ask a thoughtful question.

What did God teach you during the message this weekend? Did anything in particular stand out?

3. Start Sharing. Here are questions to help you dig deeper into God's Word.

1 Samuel 17:1-58: What did Goliath offer to the Israelites? Why do you think nobody accepted his challenge for 40 days?

Samuel gives a very detailed account of Goliath's size and the weight of his armor. Which of these attributes surprises you the most? How does this compare to what we studied last week when God chose David instead of his brothers? Why do you think Samuel focuses so much on Goliath's outward appearance?

What factors motivated David to fight Goliath? Why do you think he took offense to Goliath's words?

What examples from his past did David use to show Saul that he was prepared for battle? What is the greatest physical challenge that you have overcome in your life?

Goliath's trash talk changed the battle from physical to theological, and David recognized that. When faced with a difficult or overwhelming decision, what factors do you consider? Do you typically base decisions on your strength? What have you accomplished in your life that simply wouldn't have been possible without God?

David remembered how God had delivered him from other challenges in life. Do you ever suffer from "spiritual amnesia", forgetting what God has brought you out of in the past? What is a practical way for you to remember those victories and to be reminded of them regularly?

4. Start Praying. Be bold, and pray with power.

Take some time to pray over identified action steps and life issues. Pray that God would continue to actively grow and mature you in Christ.

5. Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week

While we may not face the same insecurities David and his peers faced, our lives have their own challenges. We have insecurities in our jobs, families, and physical health. If we listen to the world, we will get one clear message: strength is inside of us. This is Goliath-type courage. David's courage came from his identity in God.

Examine yourself: What is the source of your strength?

What situation are you facing right now where you need courage? Who is someone in your life who needs courage? Pray for these situations.

For more information about taking the next steps in your faith, visit: ringgoldchurch.com/nextsteps.

LET PASTOR DON LEAD YOUR DISCUSSION.

Pastor Don created The Message Connect videos for *The Life of David*. Go deeper and wider in your faith walk with us by going to ringgoldchurch.com/messageconnect.