

**Monday, June 5 - Read 1 Samuel 17:1-9.** This summer we are going on a journey. A journey, should we choose to take it, that will lead us to freedom. Freedom from the giants that are constantly in our face; daring us, taunting us. If we don't face them, they will come at us each day, never relenting, always challenging us and always making us cower in fear. But the giants in our life will fall. It's not a wish, it's not even a hope. It is a mandate. Goliath MUST fall. The good news for us is: WE don't have to fight the battle. The real work is already done by Christ, and Jesus has already taken down all the foes we face in our life. We are going to put what Christ has done into motion in our lives. These giants must go down and will go down and have gone down. They must stop talking to us, because God wants me to live free. God wants to get the glory of the being the Liberator of our lives. These giants aren't going to harass us anymore. God is going to be seen as the champion of our lives. That's why Goliath MUST fall.

**Tuesday, June 6 - "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." (John 10:10)** These words of Jesus need to constantly be in our minds and we need to wake up each day and hear them. Because daily we are battling our giants - giants that can do us harm and keep us from having a full life. It might be fear. Maybe not the shaking in your boots kind, but the kind that rattles our world, makes us dread the nighttime. It could be rejection. We grew up having to perform to get recognized and if we don't get it perfect we will not get approval. Possibly it's our comfort. The word doesn't seem that bad, but if we let it morph into complacency or entitlement, it can become a huge problem. What about anger? Not rage, but there is something simmering inside. We can't keep a lid on our temper and every now and then, we lash out for no good reason. These, plus many others, are shutting down God's best for us and we tolerate them at first; justify them, wrestle with them but before too long, the harmful thing has established a foothold. So claim what Jesus has done. He came to earth to die and be resurrected so we can have life to the full. It starts with seeing and believing that whatever giant we are battling might be big - but it's not bigger than Jesus.

**Wednesday, June 7 - Read 1 Samuel 17:36-37.** David points out that Goliath 'defied...God.' And David knew that God was with him in the battle. To David this was about God's glory, God's fame. David knew first hand what it meant to walk with God. Later in Acts 13:22, Luke writes that he was a man after God's own heart. A heart that knew with God, anything is impossible, even defeating a 'Giant.' A heart that was all about God receiving the glory God deserves. Making sure God was the one made famous. It was and is still difficult for people to deflect 'glory' to God. David was praised by many but despised by the King. David's life soon after his defeat of Goliath wasn't that pleasant. But he continued to reflect God's glory in all he did - and at one point showing mercy to the King who was trying to kill him. Are you able to reflect God's glory when it seems your life isn't going exactly as planned?

**Thursday, June 8 - "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me" Matthew 28:18b .** When Jesus uttered these words after his resurrection he was letting the disciples know that death wasn't the end. Death didn't have the final say. Evil was defeated once and for all. Basically the war was over but the enemy didn't know it. In most wars there is a turning point where for all practical purposes the victory has all but been assured, but the battles keep raging. We are in the middle of such battles. The enemy is fighting a losing battle but is wanting to take as many of us out as he can. Again, don't forget what Christ has done. Because of his life, death and resurrection - he has ALL authority - especially over the giants in our lives. Believe it and live in this authority.

**Friday, June 9 - Read Psalm 18:1-6,13-19, 46-49.** Based on verse 47, Steve Rogers isn't the first avenger - God is! Because God is God and comes to our defense, comes to our aid and comes to rescue us, God is to be worshipped. We aren't talking about Sunday mornings. We are talking about right here, right now. Can you do it? Can you offer yourself to God at this moment? **Read Romans 12:1.** Offer your body to Him. Pray something like, " Jesus, I offer my feet to you. Let them take me only places that are pleasing to you. Help me walk as you walk. I offer my left to you. Let them support me as I stand firm in faith and as I run in the pathway of your commands."