

# But God

Week 2 – David and Goliath, 1 Samuel 17

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Review:

God loves to show off His love.

We are in a series called “But God.” History is full of moments where it looked like all was lost and the love of God stepped in.

I believe this is still true today. I believe it is true for you and true for me.

Last week we answered the question, “How do we wait on God well?” We answered it by looking at the crossing of the Red Sea. I would encourage you to go look it up at [www.encountertrinity.com/media](http://www.encountertrinity.com/media).

This week we want to look at David and Goliath.

It was Monday night. Noah came in to get me at about 2:00 in the morning. “Dad, something is wrong with the bathroom sink.” I asked him what the problem was. He replied, “I don’t know but it won’t turn off.” I told him to look under the sink for two water shut off valves and turn them all the way to the right. After a few minutes he came back and let me know they wouldn’t turn. I went in myself and cranked hard on the hot water shut off valve and snapped it off... from behind the wall. Yep, at 2:30 in the morning I had water pouring out of the pipes behind the wall of the house. We ran downstairs and turned off the water at the main junction on the property. It wasn’t fast enough and there was water running down the light fixtures in the kitchen. We ended up drilling holes in the ceiling to drain out the water as fast as possible. Nothing else could be done so we went to bed until the stores opened up in the morning. I laid there thinking, “God why?” We are in a worldwide pandemic, national economic crisis and locked into our homes. I felt like he just whispered in my spirit three things as I reflect on this.

- 1) I never really had control.
- 2) Trust Him, He loves me.
- 3) This could be really good for me, choose the posture of your heart.

Let’s pause on this and go back in time thousands of years to a young shepherd boy named David.

1 Samuel 17:45-47

*David said to the Philistine, “You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. 46 This day the Lord will deliver you into my hands, and I’ll strike you down and cut off your head. This very day I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds and the wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. 47 All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the Lord saves; for the battle is the Lord’s, and he will give all of you into our hands.”*

- What is the historical context?
  - The people of God are at war with the Philistines. It's been a long, multi-generational war. This isn't only about people groups. It is a battle of the gods. It all has come to a valley. They have a warrior of renown. He stands 9 feet tall and he is deadly. I am tall but when I go to a Colts game and see professional linemen, I feel small. They are small compared to Goliath. Goliath stands at the edge of the valley taunting them. Especially and specifically they mocked God.
- Have you ever had a hardship that just won't go away? One that just keeps taunting you? A Goliath, a hardship that isn't just big...it's cruel.
  - It could be a financial struggle.
  - It could be someone who just makes your life miserable.
  - It could be a personal sickness and its difficulties constantly taunting you like Goliath.
- David shows up on the scene. This boy stands so small compared to Goliath but something in him is mighty. His stature may be small but his fierce God-shaped spirit is a roaring lion.
- Have you ever seen a photo of a little fragile lion cub with his dad? Huge shoulders, thick mane and a fearless gaze. The confidence of the cub is in who is with him.
- This all begs a great question. How did David get this way?
- David was shaped for this battle by all the other battles that took place when no one was looking. David had years of working as a shepherd. Day after day with no audience but God, he played his harp, he prayed, he even fought to the death with a bear and lion... all while no one was looking. David's God-sized confidence was formed not in the public eye but in the sight of God alone.
- Listen to the words of John Owen, a seventeenth-century English theologian. *"A minister may fill his pews, his communion role, the mouths of the public, but what that minister is on his knees in secret before God Almighty, that he is and no more."* -John Owen
- Two more questions:

### What does this mean for you?

- All those battles that feel worthless can have incredible purpose.
- You need to have a consistent prayer life.
- You need to choose to worship.
- Your story isn't done.

### Where is Jesus in this?

Think of the day that David came home after fighting the bear off to save his sheep. He was probably tired, rattled and wondering, "Why would you allow this God?"

Because God knew one day a Goliath needed to fall.

Where is Jesus in all of this? He is working you out and training you up. He is preparing to do great things through the people that He loves, through you. Trust Him.

Next Steps: If this sermon was for you say, "This is for me!" in the comments. I want to pray for you. If you need to follow Jesus please message us. Consider sharing this with a friend.