



GIANT ASSUMPTIONS

Day 1-2: READ 1 Samuel 17.

IMAGINE the thoughts of those around David—Goliath, Saul, and others—as David steps forward for battle. WRITE down comments they may be making. Do you sometimes have similar thoughts when you face challenges in your life? How do you react to little difficulties versus larger problems? What assumptions do you make?

LOOK at how David first tries the conventional way to do battle. Most often we cave to the pressure from those around us to “do it the way it’s always been done.” We try to meet the expectations others place on us, but God created us all differently. What if we shrugged off the pressure to be like someone else and leaned into our own gifts and talents? How can you learn to be comfortable in an uncomfortable situation? David finally said, “This armor isn’t going to work for me.” He turned to an unconventional solution that didn’t make sense to anyone else.

THINK about how God has created you to be different from others. How do we each compliment each others’ strengths and weaknesses? How can we allow others the freedom to think outside the box?

Day 3: READ 1 Samuel 16:13 & 1 Samuel 17:26b, 32.

In Samuel 16:13 we learn that David was anointed as the future king of Israel and the Spirit of the LORD came powerfully on him. Fast forward to the battle scene where he’s facing Goliath, and we can begin to understand how David’s heart can be so convicted by the Spirit as to give him giant courage. Have you ever had that experience? Have you ever faced a giant challenge and yet been convinced that with God’s strength you can overcome it?

- * Maybe you’ve faced an illness head on.
- * Maybe your finances have fallen apart.
- * Maybe there’s a broken relationship in your life.

PRAY: Holy Spirit, reveal Your heart for my difficulties. Convict me with a hope and a peace that surpasses understanding. Help me find ways to face my challenges in ways that fit me using the strengths and gifts You’ve given me. Thank You for always being with me through life’s difficulties. I pray for faith to trust You more each day.

Day 4: READ 1 Samuel 17:34-37.

God reminds us through all of scripture to remember Him. He created feasts to allow opportunities to do so on a regular basis. Why does He do this? From the scripture reading today, THINK about how David remembers the past to give him courage in the present. Let’s take a look at our own lives from this perspective.

CREATE a timeline of your life breaking it into segments of 5-10 years. Students may want to use segments with fewer years. For each segment of your life, WRITE down what happened during this stage and ways that you’ve seen God helping you along. THINK of people who’ve encouraged you, gifts that He’s given you, challenges that have made you stronger, and ways that He’s provided for you. What other blessings has God given you?

LOOKING back, how can you let your mind be convinced of God’s power in your current circumstances? THANK Him for His presence in your life.

Day 5: READ 1 Samuel 17:39b-40, 45.

REVIEW the lessons this week. Every day we face difficulties. Will our hearts be open to the Holy Spirit? Will we allow Him in to convict our hearts and remind us of how He’s been working powerfully in our lives?

- * If not, what’s holding you back? PRAY for God to reveal His plans for your life and the trust to put your life in His good hands.
- * If so, what is your next step? In what way is God compelling you to act? PRAY for courage to take a step.

JOURNAL your thoughts about the path you see before you today. What happens if you don’t take a next step? What happens if you do?