Text: 1 Samuel 17:1-9

Intro: Good morning and welcome to restoration life church. Today we begin a new series that I believe can and will change anyone’s life that wants to peruse a life of freedom and living like a champion.

For the next 3 months or so we will be challenged to overcome obstacles and fortified places in our lives that keep us from living out a Victorious Christian Life.

The title of this series is “GOLIATH must fall”.

Here’s my anchor thought: Walking in victory tomorrow is positioned by the decisions I make today.

The Giant that the Bible calls Goliath represents everything that defies our pursuit of God and living in freedom from sin.

a. I’m talking about something that poses itself as a barrier or an ongoing attack against our faith and this Giant seems way too big to hurdle or breakthrough on your own.

• Maybe you’ve encountered a manager who’s tried to keep you from advancing in your job.

• Maybe your Giant is a lack of generated income and you always feel like your running for your life from your bills.

• Maybe your Giant is a sickness or a habit that has you in its grip and is squeezing the life out of you.

• Maybe in ministry as you reach after God’s best there are Giants that come against you in a spiritual sense.
b. Every single one of us has a Giant that is breathing down our neck, calling us out and challenging us every day of our lives to live on a lower level of freedom, purpose, joy and authority.

- Everyone has met with a giant somewhere along the way, and I am not talking about a literal one.

c. Goliath represents an obstacle in your life that must be defeated.

- He represents sin, bitterness, violations from the past or present,
- He represents hurts, addictions, bad habits, obstacles, unhealthy lifestyles and anything else that tries to keep us from moving into our blessings and promises from God.

**Psalms 145:13** NIV 13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations. The LORD is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made. c

d. As we declare this truth that "GOLIATH MUST FALL", we are transported to a confrontational battlefield that demands a fight to the death.

- To not respond is surrendering to its taunts and the fear it brings.
- My prayer is that this series will expose the Goliaths that we all struggle within the Body, the Mind and the Spirit.

**Let’s open with prayer.**

**Read Text:** 1 Samuel 17:1-4 David and Goliath 17 Now the Philistines gathered their armies together to battle, and were gathered at Sochoh, which belongs to Judah; they encamped between Sochoh and Azekah, in Ephes Dammim. 2 And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered together, and they encamped in the Valley of Elah, and drew up in battle array against the Philistines. 3 The Philistines stood on a mountain on one side, and Israel stood on a mountain on the other side, with a valley between them. 4 And a champion went out from the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, from Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span.
The 1\textsuperscript{st} thing that I want you to notice with me as we begin this series is...

\textbf{I. The enemy has invaded your territory.}

\textbf{Vs. 1} Now the Philistines gathered their armies together to battle, and were gathered at Sochoh, which \textit{belongs} to Judah;

a. Just as the goal of the invading army is to completely capture and take dominion over the fortified city it assails, so does the enemy of our faith attack us invading territory and stealing what rightfully belongs to us.

- I say it belongs to us because when I got saved, when I surrendered to the Love of God I became a son of God.

- Ladies when you accepted Jesus Christ, you became a princess, God’s daughter.

b. I also realize that my adoption comes with a promise.

\textit{2 Corinthians 1:20-22} NIV 20 For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God. 21 Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, 22 set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

\textbf{My Point:} Listen you may be here this morning and you have given up territory to your Goliath.

- Your health is messed up because you’ve stopped taking care of what God has given you to be a good steward over.

- Your marriage is on the rocks and drowning in hurt because you stopped believing God for healing and in doing so stopped protecting your covenant, you gave up on Him, you gave into her thereby releasing territory to the enemy.

- The territory I speak of is the territory of your hearts, it’s the territory of your health, it’s the territory of your mind and its time to take back what you let him take!
Jesus said in **Matt. 11:12**, NKJV "'from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force'"

- Its time to get your joy back. Its time to get your sanity back, its time to get your children back, its time to walk as a conqueror and not a victim.

- Lets go even deeper.

- Goliath stands waving his spear high in the air challenging someone to defend the name of God, and the church seems indifferent against such a belligerent evil. Tolerating sin and allowing the world to define what should be acceptable.

**We have to take it back by force!**

**II. Goliath champions your enemy’s cause.**

V4b...Goliath came out of the Philistine ranks to face the forces of Israel.

1. We cannot start this series without helping you understand your enemy’s cause.

   **1 Peter 5:8** Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.

a. I don’t have to tell you that we are at war.

   - It’s a dirty war—Its being fought right here on our soil as well as in many other nations.

   - It’s a war for the souls, minds, health and hearts of God’s people.

   - And the stakes in this war are high because the price is heaven or hell, life or death, darkness or light, reward or punishment, freedom or slavery.

   - One thing is certain—we cannot afford to be ignorant of this visible war because it is waged right here and now!

   - The enemy of our souls wants to gain control of your health, your hearts and your minds. This is why Paul reminds us in...
Ephesians 6:10-18
10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

III. The Goliath you tolerate today will be there tomorrow.

a. You cannot change what you are willing to tolerate!

1 Samuel 17:8-11 NIV
8 Goliath stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, "Why do you come out and line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not the servants of Saul? Choose a man and have him come down to me. 9 If he is able to fight and kill me, we will become your subjects; but if I overcome him and kill him, you will become our subjects and serve us." 10 Then the Philistine said, "This day I defy the ranks of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other." 11 On hearing the Philistine's words, Saul and all the Israelites were dismayed and terrified.

b. Max Lucado writes: He vies for the bedside position, hoping to be the first voice you hear.

- He covets your waking thoughts, those early, pillow-born emotions.
- He awakes you with words of worry, stirs you with thoughts of stress.
- If you dread the day before you begin your day, mark it down: your giant has been by your bed.
- He goes with you through the day. He says: “You ain’t got what it takes.” “You come from a long line of losers.”

c. He’s your giant, your Goliath.

- Given half a chance, he’ll turn your day into his Valley of Elah, taunting, teasing, boasting, and echoing claims from one hillside to the other.
What is it that is facing you down right now?

- What is it that you’re dealing with physically?
- What is facing you down right now mentally that has your mind and possibly your emotions in a chaotic uproar.
- What is it that is facing down your marriage?
- What ever that is, that’s your Goliath, that’s your giant, that’s your adversary, that’s what is keeping you from living in freedom, from living in Victory, from living in the Joy of the Lord.
- What is that keeps your health in the dumps, is it your bad eating habits, is it comfort food that has become an addiction because it's what you use to feel good because so many other areas of your life feel so bad.
- Is it medication or addictions, it is sin?
- Is that your Goliath? If so Goliath must fall.

**Here’s my anchor thought:** Walking in victory tomorrow is positioned by the decisions I make today.

- **Max Lucado said:** Rush your giant with a God-saturated soul. Amplify God and minimize Goliath. Download some of heaven’s unsquashable resolve.

**In closing;**

**Does God Love Me? The answer is in the Bible, God’s word:**

“I have loved you with an everlasting love.” — *Jeremiah 31:3*

God loves you, and He loves you with a love that you don’t even know anything about, because there is no human love comparable to divine love. God loves you. He wants to forgive you. He wants to have fellowship with you.

*God is love... — 1 John 4:16*

It doesn’t make any difference how far you tried to run from God. He loves you. His eye is on you. He sees you. God loves you, and the
Bible says that God sent His Son from Heaven to this earth for you. Jesus Christ came to this earth to take your sins upon a cross.

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord. “Plans to prosper you and not to harm you. Plans to give you hope and a future.” — Jeremiah 29:11

God created us in His image - and you as a person are important to God.

“Indeed the very hairs of your head are numbered.” — Luke 12:7

Who is Jesus - and what does His life, death, and resurrection mean to me?

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the father except through me." — John 14:6

Many go through life unfulfilled, unfocused, searching, a blank canvas waiting for a picture of purpose to be painted on us. What does it all mean?

Can God really change my life?

No matter who you are or how you've lived your life to this point, God will receive you into His family. He will change you and make you complete. Trust Him, as these people and millions of others have done.

"I am the LORD, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for me?" — Jeremiah 32:27

Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in... — Revelation 3:20

The Spirit of the LORD will come upon you in power... and you will be changed into a different person. — 1 Samuel 10:6

What do I Have to do to go to Heaven?

God’s not waiting to judge you. God’s not waiting to condemn you. He’s waiting to receive you with mercy, with love, with open arms and forgive all your sins. Will you come to Him? Will you turn from your sin and live for Him?
...If you confess with your mouth, Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. Romans 10:9

Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. — John 1:12

He then brought them out and asked, "Sir, what must I do to be saved?" They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved...." — Acts 16:30,31

God knows who you are, He loves you, and He wants you to know and love Him.

How do you do that?

First, admit that you, like all of us, are sinners. Being a sinner means we have wronged God and fall short of His perfect standard. It also means we are separated from Him and deserve His judgment.

But He loves us! God sent His own son Jesus Christ to die for our sins. He died for your sins. He was punished so you don’t have to be. Not only that, death did not defeat Him. After three days Jesus rose from the dead, alive again!

Trusting in Jesus’ sacrifice for you is the only way to find forgiveness from God and to begin a relationship with Him. We urge you to take this step of faith today. To do that simply talk to God – this is called praying – and tell Him you believe in His Son. A sample prayer may sound like this:

“My heavenly Father, I’m a sinner. I’m sorry for my sins. I want to turn from my sins. I believe that Jesus Christ is your Son. I believe that He died for me. That He rose from the grave. That He’s alive. I want to invite Him to come into my heart to take control of my life from this day forward.

And I pray this all in the name of Jesus.
Amen”