



GOD IS FOR YOU
MICHAEL KAST

SG | Small Groups

Group Prep

In preparation for small group, please read 1 Samuel 17, then answer the following discussion questions.

Introduction

Trusting God, no matter the circumstance, is no easy task. Humans are naturally passive creatures who doubt God's strength in tough circumstances. Thankfully, God doesn't let His people run away with their tail between their legs. In 1 Samuel 17, God provides a champion for His people. Through David, He shows us that it's possible to trust God and bring Him honor in the face of adversity.

Discussion Questions

1. In verse 11, how do Saul and the people of Israel respond to Goliath's challenge? Why are they so afraid? What does this say about their trust in God?

What are you afraid of and why? How does this fear currently impact your life? How is it possible for this fear to be an opportunity instead of a liability?

2. How does David engage in the standoff between the Israelites and Philistines? What does verse 26 say about David's motivation to respond to Goliath's taunts? What action does David take in verses 31-32 in answer to Goliath's challenge?

Read 1 Samuel 17:38-40. Dealing with fear is difficult, and we often respond to it incorrectly. Are you currently dealing with fear in any unhealthy ways? If so, how? God supplies David with everything he needs to do battle: a slingshot, five smooth stones, and experience. How has God equipped you to battle your fears in a way that honors Him?

What are the main ideas you pulled from 1 Samuel 17, and which of them resonates with you most?

3. Read 1 Samuel 17:32-37 and 45-47. When facing fear, how should we respond? What does overcoming fear require? Why is David so confident he can defeat Goliath? How do you currently generate the confidence necessary to face your fears?

Read Romans 8:31-32. If God is for you, He is always with you and no one can be against you. What keeps you from trusting God in all circumstances? What can you do to grow your confidence in God and His plan for your life? If you were to fully trust Him, how would it impact you, your family, and those around you?

4. What is one new thing you've learned from discussing the story of David and Goliath? How is it impacting your perspective? Read 1 Samuel 17:48. David does not wait for Goliath to come to him. What is one practical step you plan on taking this week to run toward your fear with confidence?

My action step is _____.

I will encourage and pray for _____ to follow through, and their action step is _____.

My memory verse is _____.

This coming week, I'm praying for _____.

Outreach: Groups in Action

We have a team of 8 leaving on February 22, 2018, for Rwanda. Please lift up this team in prayer over the next three weeks. If you want to write a note of encouragement or make up a goody travel bag, they can be dropped off at the office by February 20. Love One is a new foster/adoption ministry. Would you consider preparing a meal or babysitting for a family? This can be done together as a small group or as one family to another. If interested in either, contact Kerry Carmichael at kcarmichael@eclife.org.

What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, **who can be against us?** *Romans 8:31*

God uses what happens _____ to _____ you _____, to do something in

you, to fulfill His purposes _____ through _____ you _____.

David said to Saul, "Let no one **lose heart** on account of this Philistine; your servant will go and fight him." *1 Samuel 17:32*

If God is for you, _____ don't _____ be _____ afraid _____.

If God is for you, _____ He's _____ all _____ you _____ need _____.

"The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine." Saul said to David, "God, and the **Lord be with you.**" *1 Samuel 17:37*

If God is for you, _____ He _____ is _____ with _____ you _____.

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. 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. 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.**" *1 Samuel 17:45-47*

He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all – how will he not also, along with him, graciously **give us all things?** *Romans 8:32*

God is _____ for _____ you _____!

Sometimes God puts a _____ Goliath _____ in your life to find the _____ David _____ in you!