

The King & The Kingdom
1 Samuel 17 Discussion Questions

1. It was mentioned that sometimes when we are familiar with a story, we can miss the real meaning of the story. Why is this? What are some of the ways you have heard the story of David and Goliath presented? Do these interpretations account for 1 Sam 16:7 or 16:13?

We need to rethink how we view our situation.

2. According to v.11, how do the Israelites view the situation? Why? According to v. 26, how does David view this situation? Why?

3. What are some common situations we face that paralyze us the way this situation paralyzed God's people? What might it look like to rethink our situation and view it the way David viewed the situation?

4. It was mentioned that not every situation turns out like David verses Goliath. Why is it important to realize this truth and not assume the situation will always turn out like it did for David?

We need to rethink how we view others.

5. According to v.28, how does David's brother view David? According to v. 33, how does Saul view David? According to v.42, how does Goliath view David? What do these accounts have in common?

6. In light of 1 Sam 16:7, what is the lesson we are supposed to learn from God using this "youth?"

7. Can you think of other examples in the Bible or in church history when God has used someone young in a powerful way you might not expect? Why does God do this?

8. Do you think churches tend to think of children's and youth ministry as "childcare" while the real ministry takes place in "big church?" Why is this unhealthy? What are practical ways we can guard against this mentality?

We need to rethink how we view ourselves.

9. One of the reasons the world loves this story is they view it as a story about David looking in the mirror and finding his inner giant and confidence within himself to defeat Goliath. What are some clues from the story that this is not what this story is about? What are some clues from the rest of the Bible that this is not what this story is about?

10. According to vv.46-47, what is this story about?

11. Instead of identifying with David in finding his inner giant, we are supposed to identify with David in his weakness and humility. Is this a common teaching we find throughout the Bible? Where else do we see this taught (for example, 1 Cor 1:26-31 and 2 Cor 12:9-10)?

12. What does it look like practically to embrace our weaknesses so that we experience God's power? What does it look like to not embrace our weaknesses so that we don't experience God's power?

We need to rethink how we view power.

13. How does this story cause us to rethink how we view power?

14. How does the story of Jesus cause us to rethink how we view power?

15. How does the story of David and Goliath ultimately point to Jesus and the resurrection?