

# Small Group Discussion Questions

Series: Plot Twist

Speaker: Jay Haugh

Message: The Strongman

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Memory Verse: 1 Peter 5:5b-6 NIV

“God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.” Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

## Read 1 Samuel 17

- David is a significant figure in the Bible. What stands out to you about his character and faith? Based upon what we observe in this chapter, is there anything about David’s character that you want to embody? Why is this trait something you want to make part of who you are?
- When culture refers to David & Goliath, God is left out of the story. How have you heard this story utilized outside of a Christian context? Why is God such an important player in this narrative? How can you add God back into the story the next time you hear the comparison made between David & Goliath? How can we help those around us learn not to be self-dependent but instead reliant on God?
- When Saul and the other Israelites saw Goliath, they were afraid. What causes you to be fearful? What heart issues lay behind those fears? What truths from God’s Word can be applied to combat those fears?
- When facing challenges, do you feel overwhelmed with thoughts about the giant and his power (like Saul), or do you meditate on God’s power and the victory He can bring (like David)? What power did David have (1 Samuel 16:13) that you also have? How can we get better at focusing on God rather than focusing on the problem?
- What was Goliath doing that made David want to confront him? What should be our temperament towards those who are openly antagonistic toward God? How should we “battle” today against such people? Have you ever experienced an instance



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where someone who was hostile towards God became a champion for Him?

- David felt prepared for his confrontation with Goliath because of his preparation and experience as a shepherd. In what ways are you currently training or developing yourself from a spiritual and leadership perspective? Where do you want to see growth?
- David recalls God's goodness at previous points in his life to give him confidence in the way God will act through him with Goliath. Are there testimonies in your own life that you look back upon that give you personal confidence in God and His character? If so, share more about what happened and how you were impacted. What Bible passages do you regularly reflect upon to be a light unto your feet (Psalm 119:105)?
- What was initially viewed as a problem by many, one person (David) saw as an opportunity. Do you view challenges more as a barrier that needs to be overcome or as an opportunity to grow and advance God's kingdom? Even though challenges and struggles are not pleasant, we know that God uses them to refine us more into His image. Do you struggle to appreciate the purpose God has shared for suffering? What can be done to grow in this area?
- How does this story reflect a greater truth that is fulfilled in Christ? The Old Testament foreshadows many aspects of Jesus and His purpose. Outside of Scripture, where else do you see the truths of God and Jesus? Since unbelievers are unfamiliar with the Bible, how can we use these more common shared aspects to point people to Christ?



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