

The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.” 1 Sam. 16:7

The 3rd quality of a champion... A Champion has a true heart (Trusting, Loyal)

He was a worshipper of God. In the wilderness, being alone and neglected he learned to commune with God. A staff, a sling, and a guitar.

He understood that just as he took care of the sheep who trusted him, he could trust God in the same way.

At times he had to defend the flock from wild animals including a bear and a lion.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Phil. 4:13

When it came time to face Goliath he knew God had been with him.

*After removing Saul, he made David their king. He testified concerning him:
‘I have found David son of Jesse a man after my own heart;
he will do everything I want him to do.’ Acts 13:22*

Q: What could God do through you if He knew you would obey?

Conclusion:

- Have the right perspective about the battles you are facing, God is with you.
- Have to believe God is for you and overcome your circumstances.
- Have to be true to what God has promised you and obey Him.

This is the Heart of a Champion

- Identify a giant in your life.
- Determine God’s perspective
- Trust in Him and obey His leading

Woman on phone with computer problem.

“Focus on giant — you stumble. Focus on God – your giants tumble.” - Max Lucado

“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... 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 Sam. 17:45,47

“David ran quickly toward him...”

We tend to retreat when we see our giants. Escape into work, TV ,shopping, a wrong relationship, self-medicating. Works runs out, the deadline comes, the lover leaves, the alcohol wears off. YOU WILL BE WORSE OFF RUNNING AWAY.

David ran toward the giant. Faced him head on with faith in God.

Now its easy to say just go and attack your giants, face your problems. What was it that caused David to have this kind of faith?

2nd quality of a champion... A Champion is an overcomer

When Saul failed and God told Samuel to go to Bethlehem he said He would lead him to anoint His choice for king. Samuel didn’t know who it would be. He met Jesse who had 8 sons. Eliab would have been the most likely choice.

David was the youngest and out tending the sheep, wasn’t even invited to party when Samuel came. He knew what it meant to be **excluded**.

Every child should grow up in a nurturing environment. The feeling that that they are unique and equipped to do great things in life. They are full of dreams.

My experience counseling with students this week. Mother on Crack, dad on run, no food.

The need to feel loved and significant are two of the basic needs in life We get this first from our parents and extended family, teachers, pastors, neighbors, friends and spouses.

Ultimately, it must come from God.

David was secure in God’s love. David could have been **BITTER**.

Heart of a Champion week 1 – “People God Chooses”

the LORD has sought out a man after his own heart... 1 Sam. 13:14

David is one of the central characters of the Bible, a fascinating study in contrasts. Just like us. He had his highlights and low times and both were to the extreme.

66 chapters of the Bible, only Jesus is spoken of more. SON OF DAVID.

There are 59 references to David in the New Testament. Events & his JOURNAL.

What was it about David that God called him, “a man after My own heart”?

What lessons can help us to have the Heart of a Champion?

The first incident most famous. David and Goliath. metaphor for anyone facing insurmountable odds.

Start with this story and work backwards to discover what was behind this brave act.

Background of ongoing battle with the Philistines. Not destroyed by Joshua. Warriors bred. Child sacrifices.

1st quality of a champion... A Champions has perspective

For forty days the Philistine came forward every morning and evening and took his stand. 1 Sam. 17:16

What are the giants you are facing. Those giant problems that parade through your thoughts when you first wake-up and when you try to sleep. What giants are “taking a stand” in your mind and filling you with fear and dread?

Problems steal our joy, peace, creativity, and love for others. We become self-absorbed, depressed, isolated. Faith is overwhelmed and any God-perspective is squeezed out.

Everyone was focused on Goliath. David was focused on God. He made only 2 references to Goliath by 9 references to God. In other words, he focused on God 4x more than the giant.

Q: If we recorded your conversations what would be the focus?

David saw problem correctly, he belonged to God.