



Your story matters.



PASTOR TOM LUNDEEN

OCTOBER 31ST, 2021

MYRC.CHURCH



"GIANTS AREN'T ALWAYS WHAT THEY SEEM"

Pastor Tom Lundeen

Giants are problems/obstacles that _____ large over us, often produce fear, and paralyze us moving forward.

Everyone _____ giants in their life.

What do you do when you encounter a giant in your life?

1. This is _____

This is a real _____ in a real place with real people.

We need to remember that all history is _____.

God is the author of history and the Scriptures are a compilation and _____ of divine and human history.

David and Goliath: Underdogs, Misfits, and the _____ of Battling Giants
(by Malcolm Gladwell)

2. This is a Real _____ (note 1 Samuel 17:1-3)

This encounter takes place in an _____ geographic location.

_____ = in between plains and mountains...

_____ and many battles fought for control of Israel here.

3. These are Real _____

Philistines—they are a real nation and people that were prominent for 300 years; they came from the island of _____.

King Saul gets word and brings his army down from the mountains to meet the Philistines in the Valley of Elah.

Single combat

4. These are Real _____

- A. Goliath (note 1 Samuel 17:4-11, 41-44) - his armor, size, and his record (_____) kept the entire army of Israel _____ by fear for 40 days. Why would a great _____ need to be led to the valley floor by an assistant? He also moves _____ and seems to take a while to figure out what's going on (note 1 Samuel 17:43-44). _____ or *acromegaly* = caused by a tumor on the pituitary gland producing too much human growth hormone. A common side effect = severely restricted _____. What gave him his great size was also his greatest _____.
- B. David—he rejects Saul's armor and weapons because they're too big and _____ (note 1 Samuel 17:38-40). In the ancient world, there were 3 types of soldiers:
- _____
 - _____
 - Artillery—(bows, arrows, and _____) - an experienced slinger would rotate his sling 6 to 7 times and the rock would travel at _____. A common rock in the Valley of Elah = _____ (very heavy rock). It would have the same force as a bullet from a _____ caliber hand gun. Extremely _____ (note 1 Chronicles 12:2a, Judges 20:16).

What's your giant?:

- So who's really the _____ here?
- Giants always look like the _____.
- What the account of David and Goliath tells us is that giants are not what they appear.
- ...we all have to deal with other obstacles and _____ and challenges that can seem like giants.
- But if we look closely, we'll discover that they're not as _____ and overpowering as they appear at first...
- ...especially if we are connecting to, trusting in, and _____ the Lord (note 1 Samuel 17:45, 47).

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey! Let us know, too, and fill out our connect card (digital* or hard copy).

*[MyRC.link/connect](https://myrc.link/connect) or text **riverside** to **94000**



SMALL GROUP
guide on the back

Icebreaker: Would you rather have to spend an entire day in full clown makeup, or in a pink gorilla suit?

1. Pastor Tom described a “giant” as a problem/obstacle that paralyzes us from moving forward. When was the last time you encountered something like this, and how did you try to solve it?
2. Read 1 Samuel 17:4-11. Despite having God on their side, the entire Israelite army was terrified by one man’s words. Why do you think it’s so easy to be trapped by fear?
3. Read 1 Samuel 17:38-40, & 45, 47. In contrast to the giant’s boasting, David spoke boldly of God’s deliverance. How may those in earshot (the Israelite army, the Philistines and David) have responded?
4. How have you experienced faith-filled words, spoken aloud, equip you to act boldly for God?
5. In the end, the only “protection” David brought into battle was his faith in God. What are some substitutes you have used, or are using to replace your faith in God?
6. Share any existing “giants” in your life you have yet to fully entrust to God. Pray for one another, and find specific ways to encourage each other throughout your week.

Day One: Psalms 10

Day Two: Proverbs 10

Day Three: Joshua 10

Day Four: Isaiah 10

Day Five: Acts 10

*This Personal Guide has been adapted from
Professor Grant Horner’s Bible Reading System.*



"GIANTS AREN'T ALWAYS WHAT THEY SEEM"

Pastor Tom Lundeen

MESSAGE NOTES

Giants are problems/obstacles that loom large over us, often produce fear, and paralyze us moving forward.

Everyone encounters giants in their life.

What do you do when you encounter a giant in your life?

1. This is History

This is a real story in a real place with real people.

We need to remember that all history is His-Story.

God is the author of history and the Scriptures are a compilation and intersection of divine and human history.

David and Goliath: Underdogs, Misfits, and the Art of Battling Giants (by Malcolm Gladwell)

2. This is a Real Place (note 1 Samuel 17:1-3)

This encounter takes place in an identified geographic location.

Shefela = in between plains and mountains...extremely strategic and many battles fought for control of Israel here.

3. These are Real Peoples

Philistines—they are a real nation and people that were prominent for 300 years; they came from the island of Crete.

King Saul gets word and brings his army down from the mountains to meet the Philistines in the Valley of Elah.

Single combat

4. These are Real Combatants

- A. Goliath (note 1 Samuel 17:4-11, 41-44) - his armor, size, and his record (champion) kept the entire army of Israel paralyzed by fear for 40 days. Why would a great warrior need to be led to the valley floor by an assistant? He also moves slowly and seems to take a while to figure out what's going on (note 1 Samuel 17:43-44). Giantism or acromegaly = caused by a tumor on the pituitary gland producing too much human growth hormone. A common side effect = severely restricted vision. What gave him his great size was also his greatest weakness.
- B. David—he rejects Saul's armor and weapons because they're too big and cumbersome (note 1 Samuel 17:38-40). In the ancient world, there were 3 types of soldiers:
- Cavalry
 - Infantry
 - Artillery—(bows, arrows, and slingers) - an experienced slinger would rotate his sling 6 to 7 times and the rock would travel at 115 feet per second! A common rock in the Valley of Elah = barium (very heavy rock). It would have the same force as a bullet from a 45 caliber hand gun. Extremely accurate (note 1 Chronicles 12:2a and Judges 20:16).

What's your giant?:

- So who's really the underdog here?
- Giants always look like the favorites.
- What the account of David and Goliath tells us is that giants are not what they appear.
- ...we all have to deal with other obstacles and problems and challenges that can seem like giants.
- But if we look closely, we'll discover that they're not as unbeatable and overpowering as they appear at first...
- ...especially if we are connecting to, trusting in, and following the Lord (note 1 Samuel 17:45, 47).

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey! Let us know, too, and fill out our connect card (digital* or hard copy).

*MyRC.link/connect or text riverside to 94000



SMALL GROUP
guide on the back