



David and Saul

WEEK 1

WARM-UP

- When you were younger, what career or profession did you want to have? How has that changed over time?
- What's the most recent item you bought? Did you consider its price or quality? What factor helps you determine what you will buy?
- Think about what you first notice when you look at people. What conclusions do you make based on outward appearances?

WORD

31 When the words that David spoke were heard, they repeated them before Saul, and he sent for him. 32 And David said to Saul, "Let no man's heart fail because of him. Your servant will go and fight with this Philistine." 33 And Saul said to David, "You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him, for you are but a youth, and he has been a man of war from his youth." 34 But David said to Saul, "Your servant used to keep sheep for his father. And when there came a lion, or a bear, and took a lamb from the flock, 35 I went after him and struck him and delivered it out of his mouth. And if he arose against me, I caught him by his beard and struck him and killed him. 36 Your servant has struck down both lions and bears, and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them, for he has defied the armies of the living God." 37 And David said, "The Lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine." And Saul said to David, "Go, and the Lord be with you!"

1 SAMUEL 17:31-37.

God wants us to take part in reaching and raising the next and future generations. Today, through the story of David and Saul, let's learn key leadership lessons from the passages as we help the younger generation fulfill the purposes God has for them.

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We need God's guidance to discern and acknowledge God's call and the potential of young people.

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1 SAMUEL 17:31-33

In David's indignation of what Goliath was doing to defy God, he wanted to fight him. King Saul considered David's age and experience, but God was looking at what was unseen — his faith. David was the youngest son who was tasked to care for the sheep of his family. He was not a man of war, but God had been training him in different way. God's purposes go beyond what we usually see. We need wisdom and guidance from God so that we can raise up young people to fulfill their calling. Instead of looking down on the younger generation, let us see their potential in God's eyes. How do you find Saul's initial response to David?

The next generation needs unwavering faith and strong dependence on God.

³⁴But David said to Saul, "Your servant used to keep sheep for his father. And when there came a lion, or a bear, and took a lamb from the flock . . ." ³⁷And David said, "The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine." And Saul said to David, "Go, and the LORD be with you!" **1 SAMUEL 17:34, 37**

While David was but a young shepherd, he was growing in his relationship with God and faithfully fulfilled his tasks, learning many lessons which helped him face giants for God later on. When the Israelites were being attacked by the Philistines, they grew afraid because of Goliath, a giant soldier who had been taunting them and their God. David heard this and decided to face him. Others doubted his abilities. But David was confident in God, because he saw how God helped him fight beasts as a shepherd. This ultimately led to their victory. God desires for us to be faithful, regardless of the season we are in, as we wait for His purposes to unfold. What is the importance of faith in a person's life? How can we help the young people deepen their faith in God?

APPLICATION

- In light of God's word, how should we look at others, especially younger people?
- In what ways is God calling you to participate in reaching the next generation? How will you obey God, as Saul did?
- Think of one or two young people in your community or sphere of influence. How may you help them grow in their relationship with God and live out their calling and purpose in Him?

PRAYER

- Thank God for His heart for the next generation. Thank Him that He calls every generation to follow Him and take part in what He is doing in our world.
- Ask God to teach you to look at others from His perspective, as He did when He chose David. Pray that God would help you do the same with young people.
- Pray for boldness and compassion to preach God's word to and raise the next generation.



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