

Sermon Discussion Questions  
**Slaying the Giant called Fear**

1 Samuel 17:1-51

January 21, 2018

1. Jeremy listed at the beginning of the message some things we are afraid of in different stages of life. Do you remember things you were afraid of growing up? Share.
2. “Everyone is governed by fear.” Is that statement true? When is being governed by fear a good thing and when is it a bad thing?
3. (1 Samuel 17:4) Back then, Goliath wasn’t a singular freak of nature, there were other people of the same race who were giants from Gath (read 2 Samuel 21:18-22). People can be scary. They may not be giants, but what is it about people that can scare us? How do you overcome the fear of some people? When is it wrong to fear people & when is it right to fear them? Give tangible examples.
4. Remember the two ways that were the wrong way to face our fears? Are you guilty of any of these? If so, how guilty :-)? (Are one of those your “go-to” method in dealing with your fears, or have you just used them a time or two?)
5. There were four points brought out for how to deal with fear the right way. Review them briefly.
  - Share stories of God having victory in your life. How might that story(s) strengthen you to face your fears?
  - David knew himself. He knew he couldn’t put on all that armor (1 Samuel 17:38-40). See how aware you are of your limitations (strengths, weaknesses): Name three strengths you can use to overcome fear. Now, name three weaknesses that cause you to fear. Finally, share two ways you ask for help (or ought to ask for help) where you know you are not strong enough, or smart enough, or capable enough to handle life.
    - What 5 smooth stones of truth can you put in your pouch that will help you face giants in your life?
  - Give yourself a grade on how much you trust God in your life (A, B, C, D, F). How often do you say to him “Dada Up” (remember the illustration with Cara?). Explain.
    - In what ways do you practice trusting in God? Share real-life stories how this plays out in your life.
  - Charging at what causes fear goes contrary to our natural inclinations. If we have the Holy Spirit in us why do we want to run away from fear? What does it take to charge at it? (Can’t that be reckless? — How do we charge at scary things without being reckless?)
6. How have you seen God working when the darkness of fear has come over you?