



Break the Ice

What is the scariest amusement park ride you've ever been on? How did you overcome your fear to go on this ride? Were you glad you overcome your fear? Chances are ... we obtained some level of courage that helped us overcome our fears. Sometimes we think that courage is not being afraid. However, true courage is going forward despite being afraid. We see an example of this in David's encounter with Goliath.

Up

Read 1 Samuel 17:12-58 and Psalm 91. David showed that he believed in God's strength and protection when he willingly answered Goliath's challenge. David had learned about God's strength and protection when he killed a lion and bear. He believed that the same God who helped him kill a lion and bear would help him kill a giant.

- How can what God did for you in the past give you courage in what you face in the present?
- How can your faith in God's character empower you to trust Him in the present and future?
- How did the Israelite army's belief about God differ from David's? What demonstrates this difference?

In

While David faced a giant who threatened Israel, we also face our own giants. Many of the giants we encounter exist within our relationships. Are there relationships that are causing significant challenges in your walk with God? What kind of "giants" exist in the following relationships?

- Your spouse
- Your children
- Your parents
- Your friends
- Your coworkers
- Your neighbors

Out

God's protection is a comforting reality. However, this does not mean that we are to only do things in our lives that are comfortable and convenient. God does not intend for us to live a life of safety if it means not doing His will. What if God is calling you to share your salvation story with someone you know? What if it means confronting someone because you've been wronged? God's protection is often only experienced when we feel threatened and/or anxious.

- Is there an unbeliever that God has called you to share the gospel with? How can His protection and strength empower you to obey Him?
- Do you have "giants" at your workplace that you are afraid to encounter? What does trusting in God's character look like when you choose to overcome these giants?

Prayer

As you lead your group in concluding this time in prayer, consider the following in your prayers:

- Praise God for His strength and protection in the past. Encourage the group to remember that God doesn't change, and He will continue to give them strength and protection.
- Ask the group to share about the giants they are facing in their life. Take the time to pray for them individually.