

Most of us have never had to dress for battle. Those who have know the interaction of the thoughts which takes place as the armor is put in place. We have no record of the thoughts reverberating in David's mind as he tried to put on the King's armor. However, we do know he determined to go to battle with what he trained with rather than something that belonged to the King. Let us explore some of the insights in the heart of today's passage.

1. Recognize Your Limits

Then Saul dressed David in his own tunic. He put a coat of armor on him and a bronze helmet on his head. David fastened on his sword over the tunic and tried walking around, because he was not used to them. "I cannot go in these," he said to Saul, "because I am not used to them." So he took them off. *1 Samuel 17:38-39*

Armor has often been an extension of the warrior's character. Saul was willing to let David dress like a king to fight Goliath. David tried on the King's armor but recognized his inability to maneuver in that equipment.

Well intentioned people will sometimes seek to get you to do what they are afraid to do in a way that they think you should do what they want. David realized using Saul's armor made him less than what he could be if he faced the giant with his equipment.

Defeating our giants is often impossible when we try to use their *armor* and techniques.

God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God.

1 Corinthians 1:27-29, English Standard Version

2. Use Your Knowledge

"I am not used to them." Then he took his staff in his hand, chose five smooth stones from the stream, put them in the pouch of his shepherd's bag and with his sling in is hand. *1 Samuel 17:39, 40*

People facing giants often want protection and props. David knew he needed to be himself and use what he had learned. The greater the battle the greater the need to be your best self. To be your self you must choose not to be someone you are not.

Haddon Robinson: In any situation what you are determines what you see. What you see determines what you do.

3. Trust Your Disciplines

Living up to your best requires discipline.

Physical discipline helps us face many giants.

Then he took his staff in his hand, chose five smooth stones from the stream, put them in the pouch of his shepherd's bag and with his sling in is hand, approached the Philistine. *1 Samuel 17:40*

David had mastered the sling. Hours of practice in the wilderness prepared him for the battlefield. He knew what he needed and he knew how to use what he had.

Spiritual Discipline helps us overcome giants.

I come to you in the name of the Lord Almighty. *1 Samuel 17:45*

The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid? *Psalm 27:1*

Focus on your giants you stumble. Focus on God, your giants tumble.

David held tightly to his confidence in God. He knew he had to yield anew to God in each situation. Jesus taught the same daily commitment.

If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. Luke 9:23

God doesn't save you to let you fall in the hands of your giants.

*Be confident of this...he who began a good work in you will carry it to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.
Philippians 1:6*

The New International Version of the Bible is used except when noted.

© 2020 by Harry Lucenay. All rights reserved.

