

SERMON SERIES
COMMUNITY GROUP NOTES

Sermon title: Standing on the Promises

Summary of sermon:

1 Samuel 17

When we become believers we may think our struggles are over and that life will be easy but for our faith to grow we have to go through trials and testings.

Through these trials God grows our faith as we look to Him for help in the battle.

Each battle we face our faith becomes stronger. We can then look back to previous times when the Lord went before us and as we put even more trust in Him we learn perseverance which mould our character into the believer Jesus wants us to be.

The Lord has a plan for our lives and wants our faith in Him to be strong He wants us to stand on His promises in the Bible and lean on Him in times of trouble and be reminded by the Holy Spirit of scripture when we face our giants

Discussion points:

1. David's first battle came quickly after he was anointed to be king when he went out to fight Goliath. David had seen God deliver him in previous battles and knew he would protect him in this one. Can you look back at your life and see when the Lord brought you through difficult circumstances?
2. David refused Saul's worldly armour and looked to God for his protection. How easy do we find it to look to God FIRST rather than to more worldly answers to difficulties? Do we seek answers or help from elsewhere first, what might "elsewhere" be?
3. Are there any particular scriptures that the Holy Spirit has brought to mind when experiencing difficulties which have really strengthened our faith?
4. What has the Lord taught us as we go through various trials?
5. David made many mistakes and errors of judgement in his life but was still known as a man after God's own heart. How did he maintain his relationship with God after realizing he had done wrong in the eyes of God?

Action points: *how can we apply the word this week?*

1. What ever trial comes to us this week consult God and wait for Him to answer before acting
2. Make a decision to spend time every day reading the Bible
3. Take time to look back and remember when you saw the hand of God acting in your life and be encouraged that He will help you get through the next battle

Prayer points:

1. Pray that the Lord will give you His peace as you go through the trials and testings set before you
2. Pray that in the midst of the battle He will make it fully known that He is with you and fighting for you and will not fail you
3. Pray that whatever happens you will be able to keep your eyes full fixed on the Lord and know that He has His hand on you and will not let you go