

# April 6 – 12

Connect with God | Faith Over Fear

**Icebreaker:** Would you rather fight, a lion or Goliath? Why?

*In this session, we will consider that a vital connection with God equips us to face any foe.*

## **Setting the Scene – 1 Samuel 17:1–18 Summary**

*The Philistine and Israelite armies are in a standoff in the Valley of Elah. Goliath, a giant warrior, taunts Israel, challenging them to send a champion to fight him. Saul and his men are terrified. Meanwhile, David is tending sheep in Bethlehem when his father, Jesse, sends him to deliver food to his brothers at the battlefield. Unbeknownst to everyone, God is preparing David for a moment that will change Israel's history.*

## **Read 1 Samuel 17:19–30**

- How does David react differently from the soldiers?
- What motivates David to fight when others are afraid? (See verse 26)

## **Read 1 Samuel 17:31–37**

- How does Saul respond to David's confidence? What does this tell us about Saul's leadership?
- David recalls his experience as a shepherd (verses 34–37). How do his past battles with lions and bears shape his faith?
- What is the ultimate foundation of David's confidence?

## **Read 1 Samuel 17:38–58**

- What stands out about David's words in verses 45–47?
- How does David's faith affect his actions and words compared to the fearful Israelites?

## **Application**

- What allowed David to act the way he did?
  - How do you imagine David's life as a shepherd shaped him spiritually?
  - What specific things *did not* hinder David that may have hindered others?
- Would all shepherds have a strong connection with God? Why or why not?
  - How does solitude and reflection create space for a deeper relationship with God?
  - What can we learn from David's life about making space for God in our daily routines?
- What impact does a strong faith have on how we face fear, criticism, and challenges?
- What are practical ways we can create space for a deeper connection with God?
- How does trusting God shift our perspective on life's struggles?
- A vital connection with God is the answer to life's problems – Agree or Disagree?