

# DAVID | HEROIC FAITH

## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION:

- Share prayer requests.
- What is faith? Take a moment to define this word.
- What does it mean to be faithful to someone/something? Can you be “partially-faithful” to someone or something?
- Share with the group about a time you were either (a) faithful to something and how it turned out or (b) unfaithful to something and the result it had.
- Read the text below out loud and make 5-10 observations as a group.

<sup>28</sup> Now Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spoke to the men. And Eliab's anger was kindled against David, and he said, “Why have you come down? And with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your presumption and the evil of your heart, for you have come down to see the battle.” <sup>29</sup> And David said, “What have I done now? Was it not but a word?” <sup>30</sup> And he turned away from him toward another, and spoke in the same way, and the people answered him again as before.

<sup>31</sup> When the words that David spoke were heard, they repeated them before Saul, and he sent for him. <sup>32</sup> And David said to Saul, “Let no man's heart fail because of him. Your servant will go and fight with this Philistine.” <sup>33</sup> And Saul said to David, “You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him, for you are but a youth, and he has been a man of war from his youth.” <sup>34</sup> But David said to Saul, “Your servant used to keep sheep for his father. And when there came a lion, or a bear, and took a lamb from the flock, <sup>35</sup> I went after him and struck him and delivered it out of his mouth. And if he arose against me, I caught him by his beard and struck him and killed him. <sup>36</sup> Your servant has struck down both lions and bears, and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them, for he has defied the armies of the living God.” <sup>37</sup> And David said, “The Lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.” And Saul said to David, “Go, and the Lord be with you!”

1 SAMUEL 17:28-37

## OBSERVATIONS:

## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION:

- Have you ever witnessed the principles of these verses work themselves out in the church, home, or work? Explain.
- What is the application of the text above for you?

## THE FOUR CHARACTERISTICS OF HEROIC FAITH

We all have so much to learn from David, but this story is hands down one of the greatest battles of all time and contains within it numerous lesson on building heroic faith. Here are four characteristics of heroic faith from David's short interaction in this text.

### 1. UNBROKEN COMPOSURE.

<sup>28</sup> "Now Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spoke to the men. And Eliab's anger was kindled against David, and he said, "Why have you come down? And with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your presumption and the evil of your heart, for you have come down to see the battle."<sup>29</sup> And David said, "What have I done now? Was it not but a word?"<sup>30</sup> And he turned away from him toward another, and spoke in the same way, and the people answered him again as before."

#### QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

- Are challenging people unsettling for you?
- How could you respond better to challenges you face this week?

### 2. PRIVATE PREPARATION.

<sup>34</sup> "But David said to Saul, "Your servant used to keep sheep for his father."

#### QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

- Are you faithful to disciplines in private?
- What activities is God using to prepare you for a big leap of heroic faith?

### 3. TESTED IN TRIAL.

"And when there came a lion, or a bear, and took a lamb from the flock,<sup>35</sup> I went after him and struck him and delivered it out of his mouth. And if he arose against me, I caught him by his beard and struck him and killed him.<sup>36</sup> Your servant has struck down both lions and bears, and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them..."

#### QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

- Do you see trials as opportunity for growth? Are you going into, in, or coming out of a trial?
- What lessons has God taught you through your trials?

### 4. SPIRITUAL PERSPECTIVE.

"...for he has defied the armies of the living God."<sup>37</sup> And David said, "The Lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine."

#### QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

- If you could see your current situation through God's eyes, how do you think he would view it? What lesson does he want you to learn?

### MY ACTION ITEMS:

#### Issues to Address. Steps to Take.

Is there something you need to do, write it below? What steps are you going to take today?