

David: Foundational story of his life – develop for ministry. A man who saw a breakthrough in a problem.

I. FACING GIANTS

A. The truth about ministry is the reality of frustration: **1 Sam 17:24** *And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, and were sore afraid.*

1. Continual array of situations that you do not have the power to change

a. **People:** Getting people at all - Can't make people get saved/repent from sin/lock in to church

1. Locking people in: *We can get them saved, but we can't lock them in*

2. Can't make people change 3. Can't make people give

4. Can't make people surrender to will of God/call of God

5. Then people will have problems that are the size of Mt. Everest! *Marriage/family/finances/health*

b. **Circumstances:** *Buildings needs/finances/equipment/crises*

1. *Opposition: City/church, etc.*

B. Jesus continually made the disciples face their lack of power

1. He deliberately put them in impossible situations

a. *Feeding of 5,000: You feed them! b. Ship/ in a storm with Jesus in boat: c. Ship/storm by themselves*

2. This is why God calls you – then allows you to experience great frustrations

a. Showing you yourself b. Showing you the nature of ministry

II. FACING GOD

A. The foundation of all ministry is the supernatural

1. A God who can do anything – getting involved with people who can do nothing

a. *1 Samuel 17:36-37 Your servant has killed both lion and bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, seeing he has defied the armies of the living God.*³⁷ Moreover David said, "The LORD, who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine." And Saul said to David, "Go, and the LORD be with you!"

2. **Knowing who God is: V36 Living God...**

a. A God who is alive will come down where we live and get involved in our situation

3. **Knowing who we are in God:** Uncircumcised vs. circumcised

a. V37 The Lord...Jehovah; The covenant keeping God

4. **Knowing what God has done: V36-37 delivered me out of the hand of the lion and the bear...**

a. This can be personal: I remember what God has done for me in the past

b. This can be transferrable: You did it for others/you don't play favorites/you can do it for me!

1. *It works for Harry Hills! And God apparently liked that prayer!*

B. God will supply supernatural power to get His will done

1. *Luke 9:1-2 Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases. And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick.*

a. Any problem you face: God has the power to overcome/change/remove it

III. BREAKTHROUGH MEN

A. A mark of men who are used by God is their being a breakthrough dimension in them

1. David: Hidden breakthroughs – bear/lion; Now facing a giant when others were not willing

a. Jonathan: Let's go see what God will do...defeating Philistines

b. David's Mighty Men **2 Sam 23** or **1 Chron 11**: Lists of their exploits

1. *Luke 10:17 the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name.*

2. **Breakthroughs are personal:** Everyone has areas they need breakthroughs in

a. But each man has to make up his own mind about himself/God/his situation

1. *God is able/God can help me/I don't care about the past/ I don't care what I see/ I don't care what others say...*

3. **Breakthroughs are transferrable:** *I defeated lion/bear...so I can defeat a giant*

a. To God - a miracle is a miracle: *It all takes supernatural power!*

b. If you have seen a breakthrough in one area – you can have a breakthrough in any area!

B. This is what a Pastor looks for!

1. A disciple who has some evidence of a breakthrough dimension in his life

a. It is likely he will be able to see breakthroughs in other areas when he is on his own

2. This is part of David being “a man after God's own heart” – raised up to be King