



DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE

Living from a Place of Victory ... By Gareth

TEXT: 1 Samuel : 17

- **T**here can be many giants in any of our lives; these giants will come in all different shapes and sizes. One of the giants that often come up against the children of God is fear.
- Fear grips us whenever we believe that apart from, or in spite of, our best efforts, something undesirable is going to happen and we can't stop it. Sometimes fear is irrational, (not logical or reasonable) and sometimes it's rational (logical or sound) But no matter what kind of fear it is, **it always affects us.**
- In Scripture, one of the most repeated commandments is "fear not" e.g. *Gen 15v 1 "God speaks to Abram in a vision and says fear not". Deut 1 v 21 : "Behold, the Lord thy God hath set the land before thee: go up and possess it as the Lord God of your fathers hath said unto thee; fear not, neither be discouraged".*
- Plus, there are a lot of related directives such as "Do not be afraid," "Take courage," and "Take heart"..
- **Fear is a giant** and it must fall, if we are to live from a place of victory Fear can taunt us and harm us. Fear can get a foothold in our lives and begin to dominate us. Fear can demoralize us and ultimately diminish God's glory in our lives.
- **Fear doesn't always look like fear**, sometimes, it shows up as anxiety or nervousness or worry or stress or dread or tension or stomach problems. Fear chews away at our lives and erodes our sense of confidence and well-being. It robs us of sleep and rest. Fear blinds us and steals our praise.
- What do we do with these fears? By the grace of God, Fear must fall. There can be many reasons why we live in fear
- **Fear can come from our conditioning** The environment we live in, sometimes our families and neighbourhoods can cause us to fear.
- **Fear comes from our concealing** Can come from unconfessed sin and therefore we become fearful in case someone finds out we are not good.
- **Fear can come from controlling** Some people want to control everything. The outcome of circumstances, the outcome of conversations, the outcome of other people's lives
- The Israel people failed to live from a place of victory despite the fact that they were God's chosen people. They were bound by fear and for 40 days Goliath appeared unto them and requested that someone fight against him.
- When the Israel people faced the Philistine army they were completely bound by fear. David however was not moved by anything around him, he was living in the place of victory.

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WEEKLY EVENTS/NOTICES

Issue

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David's brothers rose up against him - vs 28-30

Saul discouraged David - v 33

Goliath the Philistine disdained him - vs 42-43

- Despite all the efforts to discourage David, his only desire was to bring glory to God - vs 26, 36, & 45. David knew whom he served; he knew what the outcome would be. The victory wasn't in David nor in the 5 stones and the sling but in the eternal God.
- Likewise we should be living from the place of victory, not listening to the voices of discouragement (sometimes even from our families) When we're living from the place of victory every fear can be overcome, sickness inadequacy, death
- Christ is the victorious one and therefore we His children should also be living from the place of victory.

Events /Notices

- ▶ **The Next Bible Study** will take place on *Friday the 28th of July @ 8 pm*
(The bible study will take place every second week during the months of July & August)

Extra Services

If you have children with you, these are the facilities provided:

▶ Crèche and Pre-school Praise

Our crèche is based on the floor above the Meeting Room with baby changing facilities and toys to keep your young child occupied if they do not settle during the meeting. Parents are to attend to their children at all times. There is a short and simple pre-school Bible lesson during the sermon for 3 - 7 year olds in the Crèche (as arranged).

▶ Sunday School

Our Sunday School is open to children of school going age and operates during the sermon in the Sunday School room on the top floor. Our teachers have a Bible story and songs prepared for your child(ren), teaching them the need for Salvation and Christian living.

Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD (Psalm 34:11).

▶ Tea and Coffee

After the Sunday morning service, tea, coffee and light refreshments are available on the top floor in the Hospitality Room. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it. (*Hebrews 13:2*).