



Icebreaker: What is your favorite part of the David and Goliath encounter as portrayed in scripture?

Sermon Title – Imperfect: Life of David – David & Goliath – 1 Samuel 17

Group Discussion:

Read 1 Samuel 17:26 – **When God uses unexpected people, He calls them to stand up.** Considering David's courage and faith despite being an unlikely hero, how does this story illustrate the idea that God wants to empower us? How can this perspective influence the way we view our own potential to be used by God in surprising ways? Discuss practical ways we can make ourselves readily available to serve with purpose.

Read 1 Samuel 17:33-35 – **When God uses unexpected people, age is never an obstacle.** Consider and discuss examples (e.g., from scripture, history, or personal experience) of how God can use people of all ages for His glory. What are some practical ways we can encourage and empower people of all ages and in various stages of life to serve purposefully (e.g., children, adolescents, people in late-adulthood)?

Read 1 Samuel 17:36-37 & Ephesians 2:10 – **When God uses unexpected people, He uses their uniqueness.** Like David, God created us to be influential in His Kingdom. How can viewing David's uniqueness and knowing that we are God's "handiwork" designed for good works, shape the way we view our own talents and purpose? How can we overcome self-doubt concerning our weaknesses and imperfections?

Read Mark 8:34-35 – **David's ability to be used by God is a result of his surrender to God.** Reflecting on these verses, how does David's willingness to face Goliath demonstrate his surrender to God's will and purpose? How does Jesus' call to deny ourselves and take-up our cross relate to David's example? How can we apply this principle of surrender in our daily walk with the Lord so that God can use us effectively?

Spiritual Discipline:

Take time this week to check out our additional sermon resources through *RightNow Media* or on our app at: *Church Center / Home / Sermon Resources*. These resources coincide with the weekly sermons.

Action Steps:

Surrendering to God means giving Him control over our imperfections, trusting His will, letting go of our worries, and believing that He blesses those who trust Him. Consider these potential steps to take this week:

1. For those already following Jesus and living as disciples, take time this week to explore and/or rediscover and journal/note practical ways you can live your life totally surrendered to King Jesus.
2. If you are new to faith and getting to know the Lord, please consider surrendering your life to Jesus. Check out this 5-minute video <https://youtu.be/JQHtuMFdqVA> and reach out to one of our ministers (Rob at rtompson@mgchurch.org or Fred at fschmitt@mgchurch.org) with any questions or to have a conversation about living a surrendered life. We will be happy to talk with you about taking next steps.