

Goliath *Must* Fall

Winning the Battle Against Your Giants

Addictions: All Shapes & Sizes

We are all Vulnerable..

Underneath any addiction (our foundational need for approval) is a larger question: What problem is occurring in my life that I need to mask the pain or emptiness with an addiction?

- The root of most addictions is PAIN. The cause is SIN.

Pattern: Vulnerability makes us feel weak. Weakness makes us cover up and to cope we run to an addiction.

Solution: Run to Jesus rather than the addiction. Confidence and Security grow in the intimacy with God.

The Mask of False Armor

1 Samuel 17:33 (NIV) *Saul replied, "You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him; you are only a young man, and he has been a warrior from his youth."*

1 Samuel 17:34-37 (NIV) *34 But David said to Saul, "Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, 35 I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. 36 Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. 37 The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine." Saul said to David, "Go, and the Lord be with you."*

Covering and Coping..

Genesis 22:4-25 (NIV) *24 That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh. 25 Adam and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.*

Genesis 3:7, 9-10 (NIV) *7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. 9 But the Lord God called to the man, "Where are you?" 10 He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."*

- From naked and UNASHAMED to hide and COVER UP.

Vulnerable is not necessarily a terrible place!

1 Samuel 17:39, 45-46 (NIV) *39 David fastened on his sword over the tunic and tried walking around, because he was not used to them. "I cannot go in these," he said to Saul, "because I am not used to them." So he took them off. 45 David said to the Philistine, "You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. 46 This day the Lord will deliver you into my hands, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head. This very day I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds and the wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel.*

- We see His promise in the word VulnerABLE. We are ABLE because God is ABLE.

2 Corinthians 12:7-10 (NIV) *7 or because of these surpassingly great revelations. Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. 8 Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. 9 But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. 10 That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.*

- Everyone who has done something great has weaknesses. The question is what do you do with it? We say, "For when I am weak, God is strong." That is incorrect. Paul says, "I am strong."

scriptures that relate

Monday: 1 Samuel 17

Wednesday: Genesis 3

Friday: 1 Corinthians 13

Tuesday: Genesis 2

Thursday: 2 Corinthians 12

Saturday: Psalm 147

small groups—talk it over

1. What does it mean that we are the most overstimulated generation in the history of the world?
2. What is often underneath the symptom of addiction?
3. Why do we have such a problem with vulnerability?
4. Why is "for when I am weak I am strong" significant?

pastor david's prayer requests

Monday: Thank you, Lord Almighty, for your promise to never leave us.

Tuesday: Pray for the loved ones of those who have gone to heaven. Give them comfort.

Wednesday: Lord, we ask that you put a hedge of protection around every unborn child.

Thursday: Pray for protection for everyone who serves in the United States Armed Forces.

Friday: Pray for the leaders of this nation that their hearts of stone will soften to hearts of flesh.

Saturday: May we draw ever closer to the Lord and walk in obedience to Him.
