

Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. –Hebrews 4:16



The iconic story never loses its appeal, regardless how many times it is shared, preached, or painted. As a young adult who had not yet reached his twentieth birthday, David forsook the tents of Israelite safety and walked down into the valley of the shadow of death to meet an enemy whose very presence caused the entire Hebrew army to shake and tremble. Goliath was a seasoned veteran, equipped not only with vast experience and military skill, but he also had an incredible physique and enjoyed cutting edge weaponry due to the Philistine metallurgy talents. The impending fight seemed to intimate the end of David's young life and slavery for the nation of Israel. Depending solely upon his own size and equipment, the giant cursed the God of Israel and promised David a quick death as well as a tasty meal for the buzzards. While continuing his approach, the young warrior recognized Goliath's spear, sword, and javelin but he proclaimed that his confidence was in the name of God Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. He knew the key to victory was not in his own strength but that the battle belonged to the Lord. We all know whose confidence was best placed. Unlike his

opponent, David's courage was not created on the battlefield; it was simply manifested there. Instead, his godly perspective was forged on the hillside of the family farm as he watched his older brothers fend off predators of the fold until he was old enough to follow suit. Discussions around the dinner table saturated his young mind with a vision of what manhood should look like in his adult years. Listening to Jesse's retelling of family stories by the evening fireplace enlivened his sensitivity to his rich spiritual legacy. He heard the names of Rahab, Ruth, and Boaz on a consistent basis. Realizing that he was a part of this intergenerational chain further cemented his character. Simply put, David's public moment on the battlefield was predicated by years of faithfulness on the Homefront by his father and mother. Who would have guessed that their humble efforts toward discipleship would ultimately change world history? All of us need to approach the same throne of grace that David did, knowing God will give us all the mercy and grace we need in discipling our sons and daughters in order to give Him glory and carry on a vision of godliness.

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