

Send It - Week 4

You've Got to Show Up - Mikkal Harris

March 13, 2022

Group Creed

We come together as a Group with the goal of Spiritual Formation--encouraging one another to become the same kind of person that Jesus is, so that we can live out every part of our lives inside of His Kingdom.

// Bible References

1 Samuel 16:11-13, 17:16-49; Hebrews 11:1.

// Message Summary

This Sunday was our fourth week of *Send It*, our current series on faith. Our visiting speaker, Mikkal Harris, walked us through the battle of David and Goliath, describing how David's trust in God empowered him to stand before the opposing giant with confidence. At the time when his nation needed him the most, David's faith drove him to show up, stare down the enemy, and win the battle.

// Biblical and Historical Context

The story of the underdog, David, defeating the formidable Goliath, is one of the most iconic tales from the Old Testament. Traditionally, this story is dated in the 11th century BC, at the time when Saul had begun the process of transitioning Judah and Israel from a scattered tribal society to unified, structured statehood under a king. Israel's neighboring rival, the Philistines, had come to battle Saul and his army, and both infantries lined the sides of a valley in preparation. The hero of the Philistines, Goliath, stepped forward and challenged any of the Israelites to a one-on-one battle, with the victor taking the spoils on behalf of their people. This method of having one person fight on behalf of the entire army was not entirely unusual: some groups preferred this option as it prevented the potential bloodshed of their entire male population. Theologically, this story points towards the time when one Man, Jesus, would go into battle on behalf of the entire human race, and His victory would secure victory for us all.

// Community Questions

1. What is the most surprising victory you have ever witnessed or been a part of?
2. Who is the strongest person you have ever personally met?

// Discussion Questions

1. As a group, read 1 Samuel 17:41-49. What is interesting to you in this passage?
2. Where was Goliath putting his faith? Where was David putting his faith?
3. When Saul and the Israelites first hear Goliath's challenge to fight, the Bible tells us they were "dismayed and greatly afraid" (1 Samuel 17:11 NASB). When have you felt similar when faced with an overwhelming challenge? If you're comfortable doing so, share with the group.
4. Mikkal said, "Your competence plus your confidence equals your dominance."
 - a. In which areas of your life are you competent, and need to add confidence?
 - b. Are there areas of your life where you are confident, and need to add competence?
5. We can use the story of David defeating Goliath as a representation of Jesus' victory. What parallels do you see?

// Challenge

David's individual victory brought a communal victory for his family and nation. Think about people in your life who might need you to win a victory, so that they can also win a victory.

What is the first step of competence or confidence that you need to take to win this battle? Take that step this week.