

Faith and Fear

Pastor Randy Richter
1 Samuel 17:3-11

March 20, 21 2010

1. Look up these verses. Do you detect a theme?

- Matthew 14:27
- Psalm 27:1
- Isaiah 41:10
- Genesis 26:24
- Deut 20:3
- Psalm 56:4
- Mark 5:36.

Read the story of David and Goliath in 1 Samuel 17.

2. What is faith? How does having faith factor into our decision making?
3. Share a decision you have made that required faith.
4. How is overcoming fear always a part of having faith?
5. Why is courage so important? What are some parts of following Jesus that take courage?
6. Share some Biblical stories where following God took courage. Share some stories in your own life where following God took courage.
7. Is positive thinking important? How powerful is it? When is positive thinking not enough? How far could positive thinking take David?
8. What was David's motivation in fighting? How does our motivation make a difference?
9. Pastor Randy said that David understood that this battle had very little to do with himself. Do you agree with this?
10. How do we recognize which battles are God's and when to join Him?

11. What are some decisions you are facing or circumstances that you're facing where you need faith and courage?
12. Who are the people in your life that grow your faith simply by being around them? Who are the people who shrink it? How can you maximize time with the former?
13. What are some smaller "practice" battles that you could fight? (Much like David did with the lions)
14. How do we recognize which battles are God's and which aren't? Share a time when you believe you have been led by God's Spirit? How can we grow in sensitivity to this?
15. How well do you know the Bible? How could you grow in knowledge?
16. What battle/decision is God calling you to right now?