



## secret weapons

# Approach

### 1 Samuel 17:26-50

When David finally faced Goliath, we read that the giant taunted him. Goliath's approach was three-fold: 1) Accusation, 2) Demean, 3) Prodding. However, we learn that David's approach to Goliath was: Keeping a Distance. Keeping a distance from the enemy gave David a better perspective of the situation. He did not allow the enemy to affect him. In our life, we can apply David's weapon of approach when Satan tries to drag us down. By keeping close to God and His purpose for us, we have the advantage of not getting too up close and personal with the enemy. Let's recap the sermon:

**ACCUSATION.** When David got to the battlefield, his oldest brother got angry at him, accusing him of being conceited and wicked at heart. David could have tried to defend or explain himself, but his response was to turn away. The Enemy will always have an accusation that threatens our ability to follow God. Whenever we try to step out in faith or attempt to honor God with anything in our lives, the Enemy will accuse us in an attempt to discourage our faith. God, on the other hand, will never accuse us. Therefore, we need to get better at ignoring the Enemy than he is at accusing us.

**DEMEANING.** After David turned away from his brother's accusation, he was brought before King Saul. Saul belittled him, saying that he was not able to fight Goliath, and that he was only a boy. In response, David recited confidently all the prior victories God had given him when he was just a shepherd boy. As Pastor Steven reminded us, Satan uses our limitations to belittle us into doubting our calling. It is important to rehearse the victories God has already won for you. The bigger our battle is, the bigger the blessing has the potential to be. Whenever the Enemy says, "You're not able to," or, "You're only," recite God's faithfulness and cling to the victory He promises in His Word.

**PRODDING.** Goliath was an infantryman, meaning he fought with a sword. David, however, was a slinger, specializing in casting stones from a distance with high velocity. So when David approached Goliath, he did so on his own terms. Armed with a sling and a stone, David kept his distance. Meanwhile, Goliath shouted at David, trying to provoke him into coming down to his level. Had David complied, he would have certainly lost. Likewise, the Enemy will always provoke us to come down to his level. If we comply, we will lose every time.

**KEEP YOUR DISTANCE.** For David, it was his distance from the Goliath that gave him the winning advantage. If we learn to keep our distance from the Enemy, clinging tightly to God's Word and our ability to praise Him in every circumstance, we have an insurmountable advantage over the Enemy's schemes.

## Discussion Guide

1. Have you ever been accused by the very people you were trying to help? How did it make you feel? How did David turn away from his accusers? How easy is it for you to turn away from your accusers?
2. How did Saul's words belittle David? How did this contradict what God had said about David? Have you ever been belittled by someone else? How did that affect you?
3. What are your advantages against the Enemy? How well are you using your advantages? How can you make the most of your advantages when the Enemy provokes you?
4. What battles are currently too close to you for your comfort? What battles in your life do you need to create more distance from?

## Prayer Guide

Speak life, courage and anointing over one another during your group prayer time.