

# A.K.A. GOD: JEHOVAH TSABA

I SAMUEL 17:4-54



## SERMON NOTES:

## NEXT STEPS:

1. This week, I will write down all of the “Goliaths” in my life. Then, in big bold letters, I will write, “God is my Giant” over the list!
2. This week, I will think more about my LORD (Jehovah Tsaba) than my problems.
3. This week, I will memorize Romans 8:31, “What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us?” and then daily invite Jehovah Tsaba into my battles.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

### I SAMUEL 17:4-54

As we study the Bible together, we want to help each other be disciples of Jesus. What is a disciple? "And He said to them 'Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.'" (Matt. 4:19) Head - Follower of Christ. Heart - Changed by Christ. Hands - On mission with Christ. Feet - Where you live, work and play. The questions in bold correlate with these ideas. Under each question category is suggested specific questions to help you study the passage.

#### What does the Bible say?

1. What do we know about Goliath from this passage?
2. Verse 11. Why do the Israelites not fight Goliath?

#### What does it mean?

3. What is the significance of what David says in vs. 26b? How is David's focus different from the rest of the Israelites?
4. Why keep the sword and take the head to Jerusalem? What can we do to remember how God has won the ultimate battle and daily battles in our lives?
5. What does this story reveal about God and how He is the hero of this story?

#### What is the Holy Spirit affirming/convicting in me based on what I'm learning?

6. Have you ever heard some words or some news that discouraged or terrified you? Or some news that took the wind out of your sails and even caused you to lose hope?
7. Do you invite Jehovah Tsaba into your battles, or do you try to battle in your own power? Why?

#### How can I actively respond to what I'm learning?

8. What can help us identify the line between our responsibilities and God's responsibilities when we're "in a battle?"
9. The entertainment industry is fascinated with conflicts, battles, and war. Use that fascination to your advantage this week. Whenever you see a battle or conflict displayed in a movie, TV show, or commercial, stop to pray. Confess to God the battles you're facing in your life and call on Him to fight on your behalf.

#### What does it look like in all areas of my life?

10. Are there areas of your life where you battle on your own? Also, who are some people you can reach out to where you live, work, or play that you can come alongside in prayer in the midst of their battle?

## **DIGGING DEEPER:**

**ILLUSTRATION** - A woman who has become an American cultural icon in the closing years of the twentieth century provides an interesting parallel. One day in 1955, a 42-year-old African American seamstress riding a bus in Montgomery, Alabama, violated segregation laws by refusing to give up her seat to a white passenger. The enemy Rosa Parks faced must have looked like an invincible warrior. The governmental laws and cultural norms were all aligned against her, and she was arrested for her refusal to conform. But she perceived things that others did not see, and she was confident in the righteousness of her cause.

It is no accident that this simple act of an unassuming but disenfranchised woman became the spark igniting a movement led by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He and others in Montgomery organized African Americans in a boycott of the bus system, which eventually led to the desegregation of the buses in December 1956. This celebrated incident was only the beginning of a long struggle involving the entire nation. Regarding her role in the civil rights movement and her decision to refuse to give up her seat, Mrs. Parks would later say, "Knowing what must be done does away with fear.... It was time for someone to stand up—or in my case, to sit down." Her perception, strength in weakness, and confidence are not unlike David's and his similar complaint (17:26): "Who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?"

So Rosa Parks can serve as a modern illustration of the principles at work in Jehovah Tsaba's defeat of Goliath through David, explained most eloquently by the apostle Paul, who reminds us that God chooses "the weak things of the world to shame the strong" (1 Cor. 1:27).  
(Bill T. Arnold, *The NIV Application Commentary: 1 and 2 Samuel* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2003))

## **KIDS' DISCUSSION:**

Isn't it cool that God has a name for every situation we go through in life? Learning to know God by His names helps us know Him better and to experience His awesome power. Let's review the three names Pastor David has already taught us:

Jehovah means "The relational God."

Jehovah Shalom means "The LORD is peace."

Jehovah Jireh means "The LORD will provide."

This week we are learning about the name God has given us for the battles we face: Jehovah Tsaba means "The LORD our Warrior."

The story of David and Goliath is a true story. Goliath was literally a giant. He was over 9 feet tall! If you are at home, measure that out. Put a piece of tape on the wall to see how tall that is. David was only a boy and a shepherd. He was so small compared to Goliath. He looked at Goliath and probably got a little scared, but David fought Goliath and won! Read the whole story in 1 Samuel 17:4-54. David had one thing that Goliath didn't have. David had God on his side. When we have God on our side, we can face any giant.

Pastor David told us we are all in battles at different times in our lives. We may face physical battles, battles in our minds, spiritual battles, or someone attacking your reputation. You probably won't have a 9-foot-tall man smack talking to you, but we do face giants. A giant is something that seems too big for us to handle by ourselves. It may be a really hard math test, a friend that is mad at us, or trouble at home. You may be afraid of crowds of people or a mean girl or boy at school. Invite God into your battles and your fears. Remember that as one of God's children, you are never alone.

## **KIDS' ACTIVITY:**

*Parents, draw the outline of a giant on a piece of paper or print the one we provided at [tbclife.net/](http://tbclife.net/) Sunday. This printable is labeled "Goliath outline."*

We all have giants in our lives. Think about giants in your life, then write those giants on the Goliath outline. How does God help us with our problems or "giants?" He hears our prayers. God speaks to us through the Bible and sends friends or family to help. Now, read over the "giants" you wrote and then write over them "GOD." God is bigger and stronger than anyone or anything! God is fighting with you and for you. He is Jehovah Tsaba -- The LORD, our Warrior!