

**GRACE COVENANT CHURCH
2016 MEN'S RETREAT**

The Battle is the Lord's!

Session 2

Read I Samuel 17:20-31

Is there not a cause?

A. Israel's Danger: They will lose their lives or their freedom if the battle is lost!

B. Our Dangers: The stakes are high! Mark 8:34-38

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. (Ephesians 6:12).

1. External Enemies

- a. State Control (Christian message is forcibly suppressed)

- b. Amusing Ourselves to Death (Christian message is swamped by triviality)

- c. Radical Islam

- d. Personal opposition from relationships or circumstances

2. Internal Enemies

- a. Autonomy: It's my life!

- b. Addiction, escape, and self-medication

- c. Absence of Identity and Purpose

- d. Unbelief

Complete on the back of this sheet or in a notebook:

1. Compare your list from last night's session, and identify any of the above that factor into your battlefronts.
2. Next, from above and from session 1, state exactly what deliverances you need from the Lord in your life.

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Session 3

Read I Samuel 17:32-51

For the battle is the LORD's and he will...!

A. Saul: "Let's be real!" David is clearly unequal to the task. Vss. 33 and 56

B. David: "I'm being more real than you are!"

1. David's identity is in the Lord

2. David's vision is on the Lord

3. David's confidence is in the Lord

C. Weapons of Warfare: 5 Smooth Stones! Ephesians 6:10-18

1. The Breastplate of Righteousness

2. The Gospel of Peace

3. The Shield of Faith

4. The Sword of the Spirit

5. The Weapon of All-Prayer

1. Ponder your battlefronts and state for each what would be different if your identity, vision, and confidence are all focused on the Lord!

2. Asking the help of God's Spirit, brainstorm for every truth, thought, and passage that encourages you in the Lord, and His ability to deliver you and change you!