

Faithfulness in the Grind

Part two of the series, "Made for Greatness: After God's Heart"

Sunday, October 9, 2022 | Pastor Russell Tolentino

"And David said to Saul, 'Let no man's heart fail because of him. Your servant will go and fight with this Philistine.'³³ And Saul said to David, 'You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him, for you are but a youth, and he has been a man of war from his youth.'³⁴ But David said to Saul, 'Your servant used to keep sheep for his father. And when there came a lion, or a bear, and took a lamb from the flock,³⁵ I went after him and struck him and delivered it out of his mouth. And if he arose against me, I caught him by his beard and struck him and killed him.³⁶ Your servant has struck down both lions and bears, and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them, for he has defied the armies of the living God.'³⁷ And David said, 'The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.' And Saul said to David, 'Go, and the LORD be with you!'" (1 Samuel 17:32-37 ESV)

Greatness begins by honoring God through SERVING others.

"And David said to Saul, 'Let no man's heart fail because of him. Your servant will go and fight with this Philistine.'" (v. 32)

"Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ." (Colossians 3:23-24 ESV)

Character and intimacy is formed through the test of OBSCURITY.

"And Saul said to David, 'You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him, for you are but a youth, and he has been a man of war from his youth.' But David said to Saul, 'Your servant used to keep sheep for his father...'" (v. 33-34)

Skill is cultivated and confidence is gained by being FAITHFUL in the grind.

"And when there came a lion, or a bear, and took a lamb from the flock,³⁵ I went after him and struck him and delivered it out of his mouth. And if he arose against me, I caught him by his beard and struck him and killed him.³⁶ Your servant has struck down both lions and bears, and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them, for he has defied the armies of the living God." (v. 34-36)

God is always the SOURCE and should always get the credit.

"And David said, 'The Lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.' And Saul said to David, 'Go, and the Lord be with you!'" (v. 37)

"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up." (Galatians 6:9 ESV)