

Westwood Baptist Church *Grounded. Growing. Going.*



Worship Guide for April 7, 2024

Sermon Notes

David's Mighty Men, Pt. 1

2 Samuel 21:15-22 (pew Bible pg. 274)

These four were descended from the giants in Gath, and they fell by the hand of David and by the hand of his servants. (2 Samuel 21:22)

“War again”:

The unfinished business of unfaithful king Saul.

Israel demanded a king who would lead them in battle against their enemies (1 Sam 8:20), and this was God's commission to king Saul. But, at the end of his reign, the Philistines posed a greater threat than ever. David and his men succeed where Saul failed.

“David grew weary”:

The years and toil take their toll on God's king.

Toward the end of David's reign, the years of fighting and weight of responsibility leave him weary and weak. The significance of David's influence and leadership is recognized by his men and they are ready and able to protect and preserve the king who is “the lamp of Israel”.

“Descendants of the giants”:

The formidable enemy of God and his people

The four giants in the passage are descendants of the ancient enemies of the Israelites. Known for their immense size and strength, and armed with formidable weapons, they oppose God and his people. Yet God had promised their defeat, and that defeat is summarized in this account.

“They fell by the hand of David and his servants”:

The success of God's king through God's power and God's people.

There is no mention of their size or their weapons, yet all four of David's men are victorious against their giant foe. While not explicitly stated, what was true when David defeated Goliath is true for David's men: “...*the LORD saves not with sword and spear. For the battle is the LORD's, and he will give you into our hand.*” (1 Sam 17:47)

Applications:

Unlike David, Jesus' strength and power is eternal (Heb 13:8); trust Him as your Savior King.

Unlike David's lamp, Jesus is the eternal light of the world (Jn 1:5; Jn. 8:12); He has transferred us into his kingdom of light (Col. 1:12-13) and we are called to live accordingly (Eph. 5:8; 1 Jn. 1:7).

Like David, we need faithful brothers (and sisters) in times of adversity (Prov 17:17); we all need these brothers and sisters, and we should seek to be that for others within our church family.

Life Group Preparation Guide

"Let the *Word* of Christ *dwell* in you(all) *richly*
teaching and *admonishing* one another in all *wisdom...*"

- *Colossians 3:16a*

Focus #1: GOD

1. What does this passage reveal about the character or nature of God?
2. What does this passage reveal about God's eternal plans and purposes?
3. What does this passage reveal about how God interacts with his creation?

Focus #2: ME

4. How does this passage reveal sin in my own mind, heart, or life?
5. In what ways does this passage help us to see how we need to be aligned with God's will?
6. What is one tangible and measurable way that the Spirit is leading me to respond to his Word?

Focus #3: OTHERS

7. What is one truth that I can share meaningfully with someone, and with whom?
8. How can I specifically encourage someone or everyone in my Life Group from this passage?

Three contributions (reflections, questions, observations, etc.) I plan to include in our next Life Group discussion:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Westwood Staff

Gerald Hodges: Lead Pastor
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APRIL

12 & 13 Mom 2 Mom Spring Sale in FLC
12-14 Trail Life Alumni Campout
18 BBA Spring Meeting @ 5:30pm
21 Compassion Sunday
28 Ministry Fair @ 9am-10:15am
29 AHG End of Year Awards @ 6pm