

LIVING FOR LATER

POINTS TO PONDER:

1. We often live in such a rush for NOW that we fall short investing in the LATER.
2. If we only live for NOW the LATER will always suffer.
3. We have to live with a mentality that is investing in what awaits us in the future.
4. Many live never realizing the impact that NOW will have on LATER.

SCRIPTURE READING 1 Samuel 17

- The Israelites face a formidable foe - a giant named Goliath over 9 feet tall.
- For 40 days a battle rages. It's more of an emotional battle than a physical battle because all of the Israelite soldiers are afraid to fight.
- The battle is more so about "name calling" and "verbal threats."
- Young David shows up to the battlefield to visit his brothers.
- David hears the taunts of the giant and decides to remedy the situation.
- As David is making plans of war he picks up 5 smooth stones.
- David defeats the giant with a rock and a sling and the Israelites win the battle.

Why do you think we often tolerate the messes we find ourselves in?

Is there a battle you are facing now that makes you fearful?

Is there a battle you are tolerating rather than confronting? Why is tolerating often easier than confronting?

THE BATTLE OF NOW vs. LATER

- The Israelites never even thought about the potential of their future.
- Their great future was hamstrung by their fearful present.
- They were so focused on THE NOW (the giant) they missed THE LATER (freedom).
- Yet, David grabs 5 stones for a reason.
- By grabbing 5 stones for 1 giant, David was focusing on the battle he was ahead.
- David was prepping for his LATER.

SCRIPTURE READING 2 Samuel 21:15-22

- The battle with the Philistines rages again.
- This time 4 more giants show up - all kin to Goliath.
- All four giants are destroyed by David and his servants.

How do you think David was aware of the other giants?

Why is it so difficult in the NOW to be thinking about the LATER?

Who is THE LATER? (It's the generation watching your faith)

