



**1. Sunday Summary:** This morning we continued our series on *The Life of David*. Specifically, we explored how we can deal with our fears, and we saw that the text is pointing out two ways of doing that. We learned that both David and Goliath represent alternate approaches to dealing with our fears. Goliath represents the way that the world teaches us to deal with our fears. The Philistines put all their hope in the power, might and technological advancements of their champion, Goliath, to deliver them from the fears. That's still the world's approach. David represents another way, but it's not just to pattern our lives after what David did. Rather, it's to place ourselves in the story in the proper place. We aren't David or Goliath. We are the frightened Israelites who need someone to fight for us. David is in fact a type of Christ, and he points us to Jesus, who takes on our most fearsome foes (death and the grave) and defeats them. The worst has been taken care of. Our lives are secure in an ultimate way and that brings joy and courage in the face of fear. The best is still to come for us.

**2. Important Words:**

ישֶׁהַבַּנַּיִם (ish-habenayim) = champion, literally: man in the middle

ἀρχηγός (archegos) = pioneer, champion

**3. Connecting Questions: (Interactive, life sharing, thought & feeling type stuff)**

- What is one of your greatest fears? What have you done in the past to deal with that fear?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- When you've felt anxious in the past, what has really worked to calm your fears?

- What do you think “living with the end in mind means?” How can living with our final end in mind help us to find our courage and joy?
- What insights from today’s message were most helpful for you?

#### **4. Truth Questions: (What does the Bible say?)**

- Read 1 Corinthians 15:50-58 together. How can the words of Paul here help us to live with courage and banish our fears? How is death being swallowed up in victory related to “giving yourselves full to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain?” In other words what’s the connection between resurrection (and a new creation) and our labor in the Lord every day. How can that give you courage to do what’s right?

#### **5. Formation Questions: (Taking it further, How does the Truth change the way I live?)**

- What concrete steps can you make to sink the truth of the gospel deeper into your life this week? Specifically, what will you do in the face of your fear?
- One of the things many Christians fear is talking about their faith with someone who isn’t a believer. How will what we learned today help you to face our call to make disciples and talk about our faith with courage?

#### **6. Resources for Further Study:**

1. Peterson, Eugene H. *Leap Over a Wall: Earthy Spirituality for Everyday Christians* (Harper Collins Publishers, New York, NY, 2011).

