

# DAVID

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## The Reluctant Hero

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**Scripture:** 1 Samuel 17:1-4, 7-11; 8:1, 3-7, 9; 17:11, 26, 36-37; Psalm 25:1, 3, 5

**Idea:** We place our hope in what/whom we trust.

**Know:** David was a great king because by the time he became king, he had learned to place his hope in the Lord—not in his position, military prowess, or reputation.

**Why:** This is what God invites all of us to do. This was his invitation through the ages. This would culminate with Jesus.

**Do:** Consider where your hope is and what it would look like to transfer your hope to God.

**Why:** He's your only hope! He is king.

### Introduction

1. **Ancient warfare:** we glamorize it, fictionalize it, and sanitize it.
2. If you survived at all, it would be minutes before the adrenaline subsided to the point that you felt your wounds. It would take time to distinguish your own blood from the blood of an adversary.
3. You smelled the breath, you saw the fear, savagery, or drug-induced gaze of your enemy. They died within arm's reach.
4. Few died instantly in a world of dull steel and wooden clubs. You could languish for hours.
5. If you could stop the bleeding, there was still a chance you would die of infection. Men often fought naked to reduce the chance of infection, should a piece of filthy clothing get lodged in a wound.
6. If your mates turned and ran, you would die where you stood.
7. Long before anyone retrieved your body, birds of prey would feast on your flesh—often before you were dead.

### 1 Samuel 17:1-4, 7-11

<sup>1</sup> Now the **Philistines** gathered their forces for war and assembled at Sokoh in Judah . . .

<sup>2</sup> Saul and the Israelites assembled and camped in the Valley of Elah and drew up their battle line to meet the Philistines.