

Warm Up

What concerns/worries you? What do you fear? How are concerns different from fears? How are they complementary?

Time in the Word

Read Psalm 112. What words or phrases stood out to you?

Do you fear the Lord? Why?

How does this fear affect your daily life?

Discussion

Have you been part of a group that was dealing with fear? How did you respond? How did they respond?

How do you react to real fear, the stop you in your tracks kind? Do you use a favorite spiritual weapon? Which spiritual weapon do you wish you used more/better?

Is there such a thing as good fear? Why? How is it different from bad fear?

Have you ever had to deal with your own limitations in a situation? Was it liberating or defeating? Did you see it coming or were you surprised? What did you learn?

Thought for the Week

What are the voices of fear for you? For your family? At work? How will you deal with them?



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Our Purpose
why we exist

The purpose of the church is to bring glory to God.

Our Mission
what we do

Love God • Love People • Make Disciples

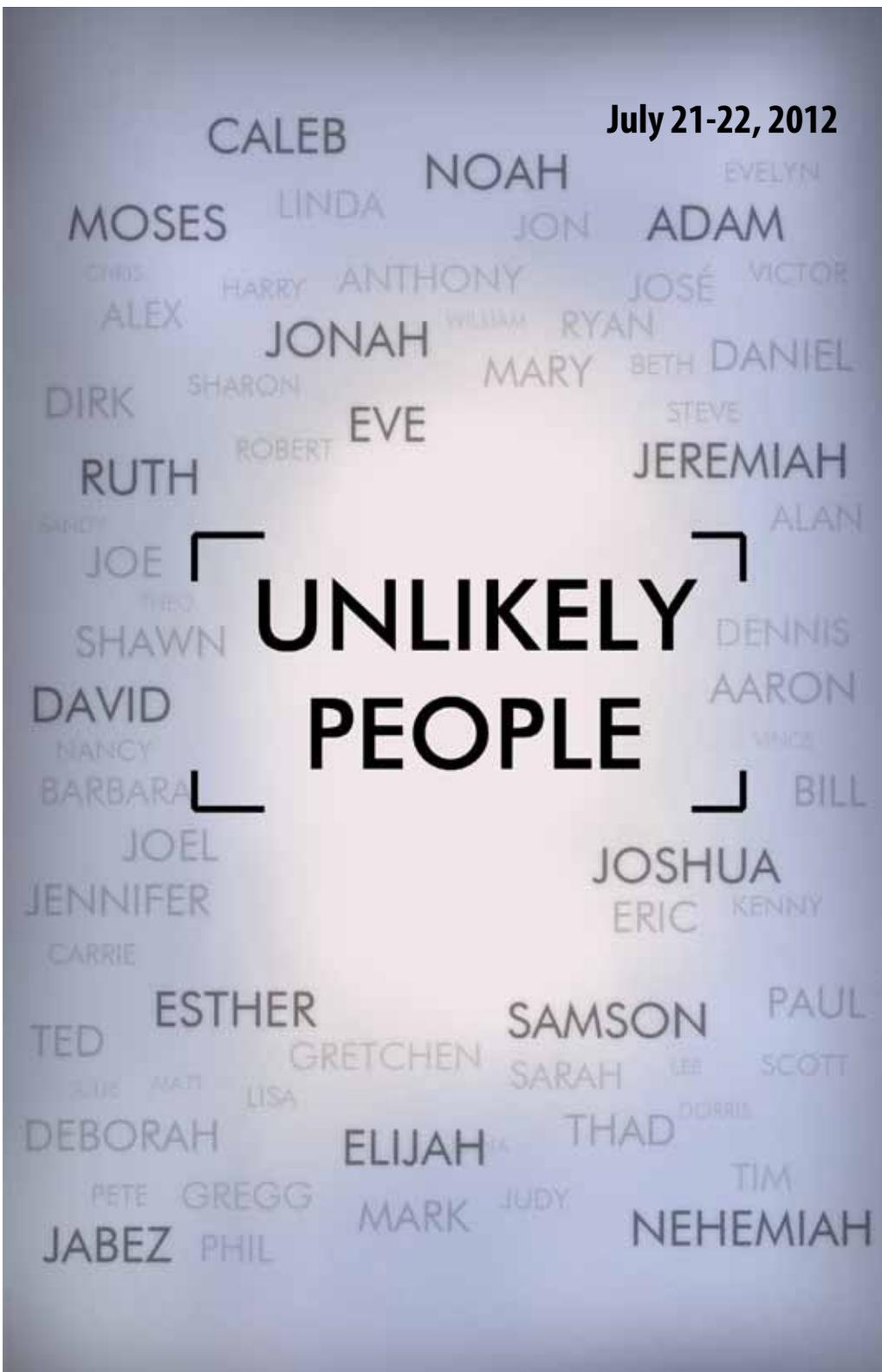
Our Core Values
how we do it

Worship - lifting up the name of the Lord Jesus Christ
Connect - living in community, loving and supporting one another
Grow - equipping believers to live in obedience to God's Word
Serve - helping people discover and use their God-given talents
Reach - transforming lives and communities with the good news of Jesus Christ

Contact Information

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July 21-22, 2012



David

1 Samuel 17

Pastor Rick Thompson

To experience freedom from fear

You must _____ your fears.

The Philistines now mustered their army for battle... The Philistines and Israelites faced each other on opposite hills, with the valley between them... Then Goliath, a Philistine champion from Gath, came out of the Philistine ranks to face the forces of Israel. He was over nine feet tall!
1 Samuel 17:1-4 (NLT)

...Saul and all the Israelites were dismayed and terrified... When the Israelites saw the man, they all ran from him in great fear.
1 Samuel 17:11, 24 (NIV)

You must _____ who you are.

Now David was the son of an Ephrathite named Jesse, who was from Bethlehem in Judah. Jesse had eight sons... Jesse's three oldest sons had followed Saul to the war: The firstborn was Eliab; the second, Abinadab; and the third, Shammah. David was the youngest. The three oldest followed Saul, but David went back and forth from Saul to tend his father's sheep at Bethlehem.
1 Samuel 17:12-15 (NIV)

Then Saul dressed David in his own tunic. He put a coat of armor on him and a bronze helmet on his head... "I cannot go in these," he said to Saul, "because I am not used to them." So he took them off.
1 Samuel 17:38-39 (NIV)

For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.
Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

You must _____ the voices of fear.

Goliath stood and shouted a taunt across to the Israelites. "Why are you all coming out to fight? ... Choose one man to come down here and fight me! If he kills me, then we will be your slaves. But if I kill him, you will be our slaves!"
1 Samuel 17:8-9 (NLT)

He said to David, "Am I a dog, that you come at me with sticks?" And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. "Come here," he said, "and I'll give you flesh to the birds of the air and the beasts of the field!"
1 Samuel 17:43-44 (NIV)

But when David's oldest brother, Eliab, heard David talking to the men, he was angry. "What are you doing around here anyway?" he demanded. "What about those few sheep you're supposed to be taking care of? I know about your pride and deceit. You just want to see the battle!"
1 Samuel 17:28 (NLT)

Saul replied, "You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him; you are only a boy, and he has been a fighting man from his youth."
1 Samuel 17:33 (NIV)

Fear not, for I am with you, be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.
Isaiah 41:10 (RSV)

You must _____ God's faithfulness.

Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.
1 Samuel 17:36-37 (NIV)

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness.
Lamentations 3:22-23 (RSV)

You must _____ God is with you.

David said to the Philistine, "You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty... This day the LORD will hand you over to me... and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel... for the battle is the LORD's, and he will give all of you into our hands."
1 Samuel 17:45-47 (NIV)

The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.
Deuteronomy 31:8 (NIV)

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
Psalm 23:4 (NIV)

You must _____ with spiritual weapons.

Then he took his staff in his hand, chose five smooth stones from the stream, put them in the pouch of his shepherd's bag and, with his sling in his hand, approached the Philistine.
1 Samuel 17:40 (NIV)

So David triumphed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone; without a sword in his hand he struck down the Philistine and killed him.
1 Samuel 17:50 (NIV)

For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.
2 Corinthians 10:3-4 (NIV)

You must _____ God above all else.

Praise the LORD. Blessed is the man who fears the LORD, who finds great delight in his commands... He will have no fear of bad news; his heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD. His heart is secure, he will have no fear; in the end he will look in triumph on his foes.
Psalm 112:1, 7-8 (NIV)

Artwork on the screens provided by Deanna Medek. Deanna serves faithfully in the Big Valley Grace orchestra.



Memory Verses

... the battle is the Lord's, and He will give all of you into our hands.

1 Samuel 17:47

Monday – Begin the day in prayer; meditate on the memory verse.

Review the sermon outline and read through all the verses. Through which verse did God speak to you? Spend time meditating on the verse. What do you sense God saying to you?

Which point in the sermon outline might help you overcome a current fear?

Tuesday – Begin the day in prayer; meditate on the memory verse.

Read 1 Samuel 16:1-37. Who chose the king of Israel who would follow Saul?

Who anointed the new king?

What did God tell Samuel NOT to consider? What were the Lord's criteria for the king?

What important work was Jesse's youngest son doing in verse 11? How did this prepare him for his future? How does this speak to you about the circumstances of your life?

What was the source of David's power?

Wednesday – Begin the day in prayer; meditate on the memory verse.

Read 1 Samuel 17:1-11. Describe Goliath and what he wore.

What were his taunts?

How did Saul and Israel respond?

What should they have known about their God that Goliath didn't?

How can your understanding of God help you face your fears? How might you gain a better understanding of God and His character?

Thursday – Begin the day in prayer; meditate on the memory verse.

Read 1 Samuel 17:12-37. What assignment did David's father give him?

What was David's reaction to Goliath's taunts?

Who discouraged David by questioning his character and motives? Who else discouraged David?

What discouragement do you resist as you do what the Lord has called you to?

How had David's experiences as a shepherd increased his trust in God?

What experiences have you had that increased your faith?

Friday – Begin the day in prayer; meditate on the memory verse.

Read 1 Samuel 17:38-53. What physical weapons did David use?

What was David's real source of strength?

What did David want everyone to learn about the Lord?

How important is the Lord's honor to you?

What have you risked to bring God glory?

Personal Reflection & Application

Identify a giant fear God might be asking you to face.

List as many of God's attributes that you know. If you have time, list the Scripture that mentions the attribute (for example-rock, fortress, deliverer, refuge, shield Psalm 18:2).

What did this exercise do for your fears?

Stop telling God about your problems and start telling your problems about your God! The battle is the Lord's!