

Part 3 F.A.C.E. our Spiritual Goliaths

Two Weapons

(Two Perspectives)

Perspective #1

Welcome everyone!

I hope everyone had a victorious week, tackling challenges with strength and faith, just like David did when he faced Goliath.

As we move forward, let's take a moment to reflect on some key spiritual lessons.

In the Bible, the Old Testament often serves as a "type" or foreshadowing of truths revealed in the New Testament, which is the "antitype."

For instance, David's physical battle against Goliath can be seen as a reflection of the spiritual battles believers face today.

David used **physical** weapons, but we, as believers, are equipped with **spiritual** ones (Ephesians 6:10-18).

When we F.A.C.E. our spiritual enemies, **remember this acronym:**

- **Faith:** Be fully convinced in God's promises (Romans 4:20-21).
- **Actions:** Combine knowledge with action (Hebrews 4:2, James 2:20).
- **Charged:** Stay spiritually charged through prayer and speaking in tongues (1 Corinthians 14:4).
- **Effective:** Be salt and light in the world (Matthew 5:13).

Spiritual Goliaths come in **many forms**—some **inward**, like improper thoughts or past regrets, and some **outward**, like challenging circumstances or negative influences.

Regardless of their nature, they can all be overcome by relying on God's Word and truth.

It's vital to **identify** the real root of any problem. Often, we blame others, our environment, or circumstances without looking inward.

But the truth is, we need **honesty**—with ourselves, others, and God—to uncover the spiritual Goliath that might be hiding within us.

Romans 12:2 reminds us to renew our minds so we can discern God's will.

One common spiritual Goliath is **un-forgiveness**, which can creep in during conflicts.

The weapon that **defeats this enemy** is **forgiveness**, a powerful tool that the enemy fears. Here's a simple guide to using forgiveness effectively:

- 1. Look** inward first.
- 2. Identify** what may have offended the other person.
- 3. Create** a "Forgiveness List" from the heart—no excuses or justifications.
- 4. Say** "Forgive me for..." sincerely.
- 5. Follow up** with an "Actions List" to show genuine change.

Scripture emphasizes the importance of confessing and forsaking sins (**Proverbs 28:13**) and bringing forth actions consistent with repentance (**Matthew 3:8**).

Forgiveness isn't just about words—it's about heartfelt actions that demonstrate love and sincerity (**1 John 3:18**).

If someone keeps bringing up past offenses, **Proverbs 10:12** reminds us that love covers all offenses. Responding with forgiveness instead of reacting emotionally is always the better choice.

Bottom line? When conflicts arise, say "Please forgive me" or "I forgive you" with sincerity.

If we choose not to forgive, we risk facing consequences similar to those described in **Matthew 18:23-35**—the parable of the unforgiving servant.

Spiritual Goliaths, whether inward or outward, need to be confronted and defeated. If left unchecked, they'll continue to trouble us and those around us.

Numbers 33:55 warns us that unresolved issues can become like thorns in our sides, constantly vexing us.

So, let's take these lessons to heart—whether it's battling improper thoughts, overcoming difficult circumstances, or extending forgiveness where it's needed most.

With God's Word as our guide and forgiveness as our weapon, we can face any spiritual Goliath and come out victorious.

Stay strong and keep fighting the good fight!

Perspective # 2

Facing Spiritual Goliaths: Insights and Strategies for Victory

In our spiritual journey, we often encounter challenges that can be likened to the biblical account of David and Goliath.

David's triumph over Goliath in the **Old Testament** serves as a powerful metaphor for believers navigating spiritual battles in the **New Testament** era.

Just as **David** faced a **physical giant**, **we** face **spiritual giants** that require us to wield spiritual weapons and rely on God's guidance for victory.

Understanding Types and Antitypes in Scripture

The Old Testament frequently foreshadows the New Testament through the concept of "**types**" and "**antitypes**." A type is a person, place, or event in the Old Testament that prefigures a future counterpart in the New Testament, known as the antitype.

For example, David, as a type, represents believers in their battles against spiritual Goliaths, the antitype.

While **David** relied on **physical weapons**, **believers** are equipped with **spiritual tools** described in Ephesians 6:10-18.

F.A.C.E. Your Spiritual Battles

To effectively confront spiritual giants, we can adopt the acrostic **F.A.C.E.**:

- **Faith:** Cultivate unwavering belief in God's promises (**Romans 4:20-21**). Faith is the foundation for victory.
- **Actions:** Combine knowledge with action, demonstrating faith through deeds (**Hebrews 4:2; James 2:20**).
- **Charged:** Stay spiritually energized by speaking in tongues and maintaining communion with God (**1 Corinthians 14:4**).
- **Effective:** Be salt and light in the world, influencing others positively (**Matthew 5:13**).

This framework equips believers to stand firm against spiritual adversaries, whether they manifest internally or externally.

Identifying Spiritual Goliaths

Spiritual Goliaths come in various forms and strengths. They may be **inward** struggles such as improper thoughts, strongholds, or unresolved issues from the past.

Alternatively, they may be **outward** challenges like demonic influences, hostile environments, or adverse circumstances.

Regardless of their nature, these giants can be overcome through God's Word rightly divided.

It is crucial to identify the root problem—the true Goliath—in any situation.

Often, people mistakenly attribute their struggles to external factors such as relationships or circumstances without addressing the internal issues at play.

This **misidentification** can hinder spiritual growth and resolution.

The Role of Forgiveness

One of the **most potent weapons** against spiritual Goliaths is **forgiveness**.

When conflicts arise between individuals or groups, unforgiveness often becomes the spiritual giant lurking at the door (**Genesis 4:7**).

Forgiveness not only **resolves** interpersonal disputes but also **restores** spiritual harmony and healing.

To activate forgiveness effectively:

- 1. Look inward:** Examine your own heart and actions.
- 2. Identify offenses:** Understand what may have caused hurt or misunderstanding.
- 3. Create a forgiveness list:** From the heart, list areas where forgiveness is needed.
- 4. Forgive unconditionally:** Offer forgiveness without justification or excuses.
- 5. Take action:** Demonstrate repentance through tangible acts of reconciliation (**Matthew 3:8; 1 John 3:18**).

Forgiveness requires **humility** and **sincerity**. **Proverbs 28:13** remind us that concealing transgressions prevents prosperity but acknowledging them leads to mercy.

Similarly, **James 5:16** emphasizes the importance of confessing faults and praying for one another to achieve healing and restoration.

A Divine Response vs. Emotional Reaction

When dealing with offenses, believers face a choice between a divine response and an emotional reaction. **Proverbs 10:12** highlight that **love covers all offenses**, while hatred stirs up strife.

A divine response involves saying “**Please forgive me**” and “**I forgive you**” from the heart, fostering reconciliation and peace.

Failing to forgive can lead to spiritual consequences, as illustrated in **Matthew 18:23-35**. The parable of the unforgiving servant shows that withholding mercy invites judgment from God.

Forgiveness is not optional—it is essential for maintaining spiritual integrity and relationships.

Driving Out Spiritual Goliaths

Whether inward or outward, spiritual Goliaths must be confronted and driven out to prevent ongoing trouble.

Numbers 33:55 warn that failing to remove obstacles can result in persistent vexation and conflict.

Believers are called to address these challenges decisively, relying on God’s strength and wisdom.

Conclusion

Spiritual battles are inevitable in the life of every believer.

By recognizing the nature of our spiritual Goliaths, employing faith-based strategies like F.A.C.E., and wielding forgiveness as a powerful weapon, we can overcome these challenges and experience victory through Christ.

As **Romans 12:2** reminds us, transformation begins with the renewal of our minds—a **process** that enables us to discern God’s will and act in alignment with His purposes.

Let us face our spiritual giants with courage, humility, and reliance on God’s Word, knowing that victory is assured for those who trust in Him.

1 Corinthians 15:57-58 (AMP)

57 But thanks be to God, **Who gives us the victory** [making us conquerors] through our Lord Jesus Christ. 58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be firm (steadfast), immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord [always being superior, excelling, doing more than enough in the service of the Lord], knowing and being continually aware that your labor in the Lord is not futile [it is never wasted or to no purpose].

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