

Alma School Road
(on the SE corner of
Alma School and
Southern Ave.

We typically spend
about an hour or so
cleaning the family
visitation rooms and
the toys that the
children play with
while they are there.

Please join us and be
a part of this blessing
we bring to these
children, to their
families and to the
tireless workers at
DCS.

Foster Care Teens Personal Care Items

1 Youth is continuing
to collect "Personal
Care Items" for the
teens in foster care
throughout the year.
Items for both male
and female teens are
being collected in the
two bins just outside
our youth room.
These items will be
sorted into personal
bags and given to DCS
to be distributed to
teens who may not
even have their own
tooth brush or comb.

Whenever you're out
shopping for your own
personal care items
such as soap,
deodorant, tooth
paste, feminine
hygiene items or
when you see the
"travel size" shampoo,
mouthwash, etc., pick
up a few extra items
and drop them in the
bins.

Help share God's love
by letting these teens
know that somebody
really does care about
them.

- What could you do if you stopped letting doubt and fear run your life?
- What could you do if you started really trusting God?

We looked at **1 Samuel 17** to see what David can teach us about being fearless for God in the story of David & Goliath.

We talked about how Goliath had the entire Israelite army "**Terrified and deeply shaken**" with his taunts and threats. King Saul and the Israelite army were paralyzed by fear. Their fear was keeping them from doing what God wanted them to do.

We said that while we will most likely never be confronted by a heavily armored 'giant' threatening to kill us, we all have our own Goliath's in our lives that keep us from doing God's work and from being who God created us to be.

We talked about various people or things in our lives that cause us to doubt or fear and keep us from being who God wants us to be. We said that we may not even recognize the Goliath's in our lives that keep us from doing God's work.

Sometimes our Goliath can be a bully or just as easily our Goliath can be a close friend. Many times our Goliath is even within our own selves.

We saw in the rest of the story that David, while very young and small was able to beat Goliath.

Several things we learned from David are: #1-Be a smart listener. Everyone has an opinion and people will try to talk you into or out of just about anything. While David heard the bully Goliath's threats and he heard King Saul's seemingly smart advice that there was no way he could win, David **listened** to God.

We said that if what people tell us aligns with the word of God, then it's good advice. If it doesn't then it's bad advice. David listened to the voice of God to do the right thing no matter what everyone else thought.

#2-Remember your past. David explained to King Saul that God was with him and had helped him through many hard times before, fighting off bears and lions to protect his sheep.

David had no doubt that God would help him defeat the Pagan warrior Goliath. When we remember times that God has helped us in the past, it gives us confidence and helps build our faith that God is by our side through whatever tough time we're faced with.

#3- Know your tools. David used what he was familiar with but the most important tool he had with him was the power of God. We each have the Holy Spirit within us to guide us and to help us through any hard times we face.

David also knew that he was not fighting as himself, he was fighting as part of the army of the living God. He was also not fighting for himself, he was fighting for the glory of God so that

the whole world would know that there is a God of Israel.

There are so many things in our lives to keep us from doing what God wants us to do. People tell us that we're too young, too old, too small, not smart enough, we have no experience, etc. etc. We can even be un-knowingly talked out of doing what we know is right by our best friends. King Saul didn't mean anything bad by telling David that there was no way he could win in a fight with Goliath. It's what made sense to him at the time.

But David knew who he was and who he was fighting for. Every Israeli soldier had the same opportunity as David. Every Israeli soldier believed in the same God as David.

But David was the only one who acted fearlessly because he not only believed IN God, he also Believed God. He believed God's promises.

The Israeli army had forgotten who they were and it caused them to be paralyzed in fear so that they could not accomplish their goal. David knew who he was as a Child of God and had full faith that God would help him to victory.

We were each created to be extraordinary to do amazing things for the glory of God if only we remember who we are as a Child of God and if we not only believe IN God, but always **believe God** and His word.

God has given each of us everything that we need to be who He created us to be. Through the name of Jesus and the Holy Spirit within us we have the power and the strength to live fearlessly for God.

Bible verses referenced in this lesson: 2 Timothy 2:7, 1 Samuel 17

Let us know if you have any questions.

Have a blessed Week,

Chris & Michelle Miller

1 Youth Ministry