covenant grove CHURCH
4825 ROSELLE AVE. MODESTO, CA 95357

November 1, 2026

# Fear and Focus

## from our series, *Powerful: Stories from 1 & 2 Samuel*

Warmup: *What is something you're afraid of? (Could be silly or serious.)*

REMINDER The stories in the Bible are *our* family stories. They shape us and they show us truths about God and about humans. Meander through this biblical story and see what the Holy Spirit shows you!

READ 1 Samuel 17 (it's a long story!)

REFLECT

- What questions do you have about this story?

- The sermon talked about two truths in this story: 1) we are like David, 2) we are like Israel and Jesus is like David. Let's talk about both.
    - (1) Like David, we are filled with the Holy Spirit to join God's mission (John 20:19-23).
        - What are some of the "Goliaths" that oppose us?

        - Like David's sling and stones, how can we use the resources God has already given us to overcome our "Goliaths"? Get as specific as you can. For example, Neil mentioned the Holy Spirit, the Bible, the Church, and prayer.

        - Give everyone a bit of time to sit silently and ask the Holy Spirit to bring to mind a next step. Then share what you think your next step is.

    - (2) Jesus is like David, and we are like Israel.
        - List as many parallels as you can think of between Jesus and David.

        - Read Hebrews 12:1-2. Various translations say Jesus is the *author and perfector of our faith,* or *our champion*. All these English words are aimed at the core truth that Jesus is the capable hero that delivers us from our enemies and unites us with God.

        - Split into groups of 3-4, and do the following if you're able:
            - Share about a way that Jesus has delivered you from something you were facing.
            - Name a "Goliath" you are facing now and consider what you would like Jesus to do.
            - Pray for each other's next steps, and share any other prayer requests, then pray for each other.

RESPOND

- If time allows, regroup and consider that we are sent to make disciples. Who in your life would be blessed to hear this story and learn that Jesus is their champion? Make a plan to share the story and talk with them this week.