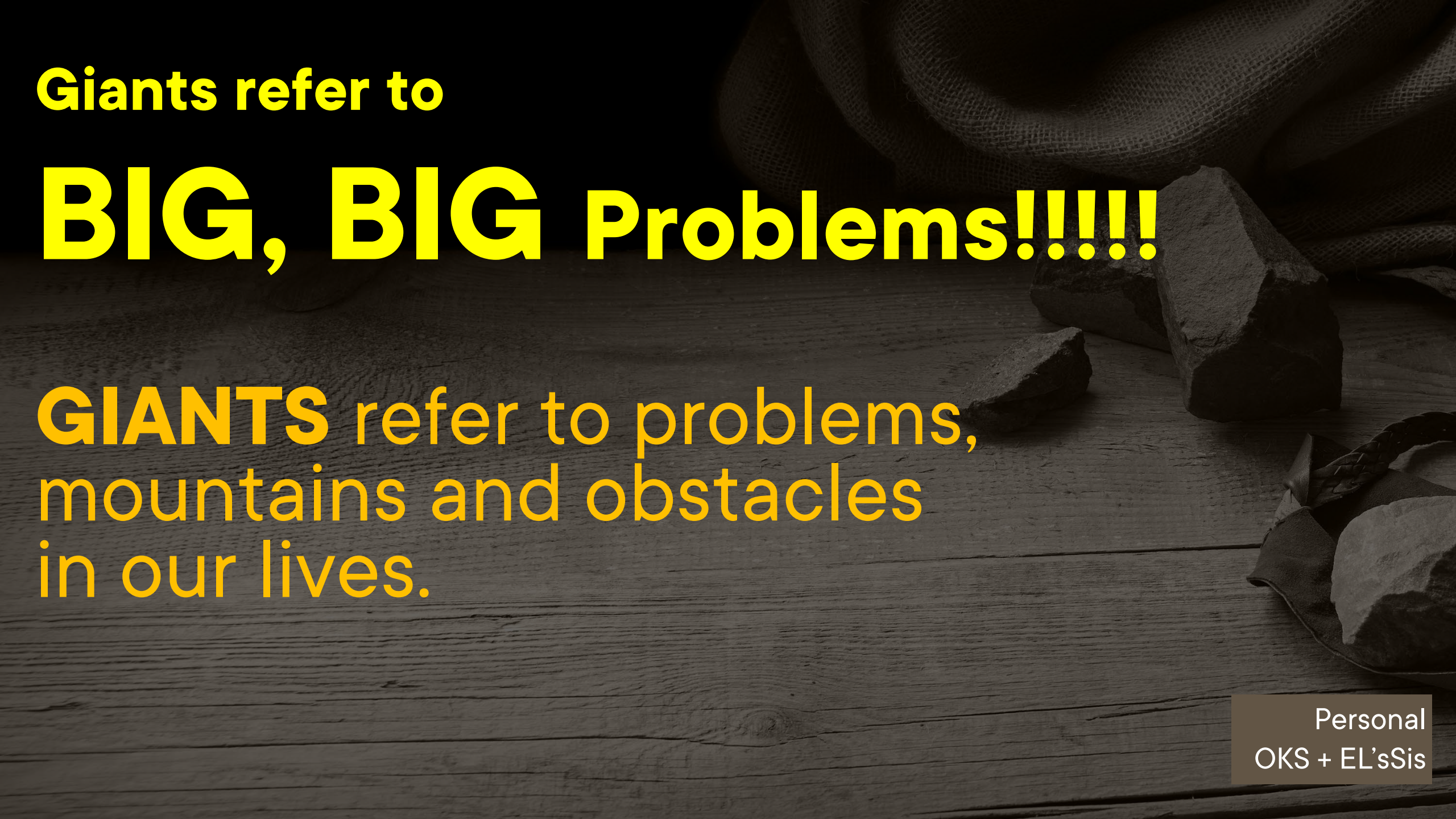




When You Are Facing
GIANTS



Giants refer to

BIG, BIG Problems!!!!!!

GIANTS refer to problems,
mountains and obstacles
in our lives.

When You Are Facing Giants

- I. Giants are real
- II. God is greater
- III. Giants must be faced



When You Are Facing Giants

I. **Giants are real**



When You Are Facing Giants

I. **Giants are real**

Fear and anxiety	Hopelessness and despair	Spiritual oppression	Addictions and hidden struggles	Job insecurity
Endless delays and closed doors	Disappointments & discouragements		Uncertainty re the future	Fractured families
Overwhelming responsibilities	Serious illness	Unresolved conflicts and strained relationships		A calling that feels too big
Workplace pressure	Financial stress	Broken marriages		Debt

I. Giants are real

Deuteronomy 9:1-2

1 “Hear, O **Israel**: You are to cross over the Jordan today, and go in to dispossess **nations greater and mightier than yourself, cities great and fortified up to heaven,** 2 a **people great and tall,** the **descendants of the Anakim**, whom you know, and of whom you heard it said, 'Who can stand before the **descendants of Anak?**'

- Giants are real
- Following God does not mean we pretend problems do not exist
- It means recognising they are real, but so is our God!

I. **Giants are real**

1 Samuel 17:1-9

- The Philistines gathered their armies together to battle.
- Saul and Israel were gathered together and drew up in battle array.
- Philistines stood on a mountain on one side, and Israel on the other side.
- Goliath from Philistines – giant – heavily-armed.

10 And the Philistine said, “I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together.”

I. **Giants are real**

In 1 Samuel 17, Israel Faced a Giant—Goliath!

- For **40 days**, Israel listened to **Goliath's voice**
- Goliath did not attack first - he **intimidated**
- He **taunted** the people of God
- He **set the terms of the battle**
- He **magnified his own strength**
- He **belittled Israel's identity**

Before he even threw a spear,
Goliath had already won by sowing fear.

I. Giants are real

In 1 Samuel 17, Israel Faced a Giant—Goliath!

1 Samuel 17:11 When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were **dismayed and greatly afraid**.

Similar incident in Numbers 13-14

Numbers 13:33 There we saw the giants (the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and we were like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight.

I. **Giants are real**

In 1 Samuel 17, Israel Faced a Giant—Goliath!

Israel was intimidated by Goliath ...

Until a shepherd boy stepped onto the battlefield

- Not trained for war
- Not invited to fight
- Not even respected by his own brothers.

But he carried a **greater weapon**,
which is **faith in the living God!**

When You Are Facing Giants

II. God is greater

The Keys to David's Victory

Biblical Principles to Conquer Giants

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The Keys to David's Victory

Biblical Principles to Conquer Giants

1. Perspective - Adopting a God-Centred Perspective



1. Perspective – Adopting a God-Centred Perspective

- **Everyone** else **saw a giant**:
his height, his armour, his experience.
- **David heard the same threats but reacted differently.**
- Where **others saw size and strength**,
David saw an offence against the honour of God.

1 Samuel 17:26 Then David spoke to the men who stood by him ...
**For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy
the armies of the living God?”**

1. Perspective - Adopting a God-Centred Perspective

1 Samuel 17:26 ... For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?"



- Interpret your situation through Who God is and what He promised
- Not through the size of your problems
- Do not magnify the giant!



- Goliath is outside God's covenant (*Genesis 17*)
- Israel is under God's promise
- Church (*Romans 2:28-29; Colossians 2:11-12; Hebrews 8-9*)

1. Perspective - Adopting a God-Centred Perspective

Similar Incident #1

Numbers 14:6-9

6 But **Joshua ... and Caleb ...**

7 ... **spoke** to all the congregation of the children of Israel, saying: ...

8 If **the Lord** delights in us, then **He will bring us into this land and give it to us,** 9 **Only do not rebel against the Lord, nor fear the people of the land, for they are our bread; their protection has departed from them,** and **the Lord is with us. Do not fear them."**

FOCUS on **God**, His **Word**, His **Promises**, His **Power**

1. Perspective - **Adopting a God-Centred Perspective**

Similar Incident #2 - 2 Kings 6

- King of Syria vs King of Israel
- Elisha gave words of knowledge re Syrian army to King of Israel
- King of Syria then sent horses, chariots and a great army after Elisha
- Elisha's servant **saw only the enemy** army surrounding the city.
Panicked!
- Elisha **prayed** for the servant's **eyes to be opened**
- The servant **then saw** the "***hills full of horses and chariots of fire***"

1. Perspective - Adopting a God-Centred Perspective

Proverbs 29:25 The **fear of man brings a snare**,
but **whoever trusts in the Lord shall be safe**.



- Take captive every thought (*2 Corinthians 10:5*)
- Plug into the Father's love (*1 John 4:18; Romans 8:32*)
- Connect to the Holy Spirit (*2 Timothy 1:7*)

1. Perspective - Adopting a God-Centred Perspective

- Faith **reframes** the battle
- David doesn't deny **Goliath's size**. He **denies his authority**.

Romans 8:31 What then shall we say to these things? **If God is for us, who can be against us?**

Psalms 27:1 The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the strength of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

1. Perspective - Adopting a God-Centred Perspective

- See your Giant in **God's light**, not man's
- Israel saw Goliath, David saw **God**
- Goliath was huge, but to David, **God was infinitely larger**
- Make a **course correction**:
realign our focus from the giants in our lives to **God!**

Hebrews12:2

1. Perspective - Adopting a God-Centred Perspective

- Do **not** be like **King Asa** who became diseased in his feet ... yet he **did not seek the LORD but the physicians**

2Chronicles16:12

- Do **not** be like the **leaders of Israel** who made a covenant with the **Gibeonites** but **did not ask counsel of the LORD**

Joshua9:14

- **Be like David** who **set the LORD always before him** and was **not easily shaken** (hold on to God's light & truth even when feel dry, drown, deserted)

Psalms16:8; Romans8:5-6; Isaiah26:3-4

II. God is greater

The Keys to David's Victory

Biblical Principles to Conquer Giants

- 1. Perspective - Adopting a God-Centred Perspective**
- 2. Practice - Practicing a Proven, Private Faith**

2. Practice – Practicing a Proven Private Faith

1 Samuel 17:34-35

34 But David said to Saul, “Your servant used to **keep his father’s sheep**, and when **a lion or a bear** came and took a lamb out of the flock,
35 I went out after it and **struck it**, and **delivered** the lamb from its mouth; and when it arose against me, I **caught it** by its beard, and **struck and killed it**.

Practice – Practice – Practice

Psalm 78:72 ... the skillfulness of his hands.

2. Practice – Practicing a Proven Private Faith

Principle: Luke 16:10a He who is faithful in what is least (little) is faithful also in much ...

- **Public** breakthroughs are built on **private** faithfulness
- Draw from your **past experiences with Him**

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ✓ Answered prayers | ✓ Past Victories |
| ✓ Moments God came through | ✓ Times you sensed His closeness |
| ✓ Clear guidance along the way | ✓ Divine moments |

Experiencing God coming through for you again and again!

2. Practice – Practicing a Proven Private Faith

1 Samuel 17:38-39

38 So **Saul clothed David with his armour ...** 39 David fastened his sword to his armour and **tried to walk**, for he had **not tested them. And David said to Saul, “I cannot walk with these, for I have not tested them.” So David took them off.**

- The temptation to **fight someone else’s way**
- Victory doesn’t come from **imitation**, but from **personal obedience**

2. Practice – Practicing a Proven Private Faith

God prepares giant-slayers in private

Similar example in **Joseph** – Genesis 39-41

- His faith and character were first tested in the **pit**
- Then in **Potiphar's house**
- Followed by in **prison**
- Before he was elevated to **Pharaoh's court** to save nations!
- **Private** faithfulness precedes **public** victory!

2. Practice – Practicing a Proven Private Faith

- Hebrews describe **people of faith**
- Faith is a muscle **exercised mostly** in the **routine** of our lives.

Hebrews 11:34 quenched the fury of the flames, and **escaped** the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to **strength**; and who became **powerful** in battle and **routed** foreign armies.

Revelation 3:18- +gold refined in fire
1 Peter 1:6-7=rich

II. God is greater

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Biblical Principles to Conquer Giants

- 1. Perspective - Adopting a God-Centred Perspective**
- 2. Practice - Practicing a Proven Private Faith**
- 3. People - Surrounding ourselves with the Right People**

3. People – Surrounding ourselves with the Right People

Some people do not matter like David's brothers.

1 Samuel 17:28-29

28 Now **Eliab his oldest brother** heard when he spoke to the men; and **Eliab's anger** was aroused against David, and he said, "Why did you come down here? And with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your pride and the insolence of your heart, for you have come down to see the battle." **29** And David said, "What have I done now? Is there not a cause?"

3. People – Surrounding ourselves with the Right People

Some people do not matter like David's father

- His **father** did **not** even include him when Samuel, the prophet came to anoint the next king of Israel

1 Samuel 16:11 So he asked Jesse, “**Are these all the sons you have?**” “**There is still the youngest (David),**” Jesse answered. “He is tending the sheep.” Samuel said, “Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives.”

3. People – Surrounding ourselves with the Right People

Some people matter like **Jonathan**

1 Samuel 20:17 Now Jonathan again caused David to vow, because he **loved** him; for he loved him **as he loved his own soul**.

3. People – Surrounding ourselves with the Right People

May be from our blood family; spiritual family, divine connect

Proverbs 18:24b But there is **a friend** who sticks **closer than a brother**.

BOB-BOS

2 Samuel 15

v12: Ahithopel – David's counsellor – later **betrayed** David

Bathsheba = Ahithopel's granddaughter-2 Sam23:34; 11:3

v37: Hushai – David's friend – remained **faithful**

3. People – Surrounding ourselves with the Right People

Found in the **inner circle** of relationships we **build**
(time, effort, intentionality)

Proverbs 11:14 Where there is no counsel, the people fall;
but in the **multitude of counsellors there is safety.**

Proverbs 24:6b

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The Keys to David's Victory

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- 3. People - Surrounding ourselves with the Right People**
- 4. Proclaim - Declaring our faith ahead of action**

4. Proclaim – Declaring our faith ahead of action

Faith speaks first – action follows through

- Spirit of Faith – declaration before striking

1 Samuel 17:36-37: **David to Saul**

36 Your servant has **killed both lion and bear**; and **this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, seeing he has defied the armies of the living God.** 37 Moreover David **said**, “**The Lord, who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.**”..

4. Proclaim – Declaring our faith ahead of action

1 Samuel 17:45-47 David to Goliath

45 Then **David** said to the Philistine, “You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But **I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel**, whom you have defied.

46 This day **the Lord will deliver you into my hand**, and I will **strike** you and **take your head** from you ... that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. 47 Then all this assembly shall know that **the Lord** does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is the Lord’s, and **He will give you into our hands.**”

4. Proclaim – Declaring our faith ahead of action

Similar example in **Jehoshaphat's situation when surrounded by vast enemies**

2 Chronicles 20:14-15

14 Then the Spirit of the Lord came upon **Jahaziel** ...

15 Thus says the Lord to you (Jehoshaphat):

'Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude,
for the battle is not yours, but God's ...

4. Proclaim – Declaring our faith ahead of action

Similar example in **Joshua – Israelites in conquering Jericho**

Joshua 6:20 So the people shouted when the priests **blew the trumpets**. And it happened when the people heard the **sound of the trumpet**, and the people shouted with a **great shout**, that **the wall fell down flat**. Then the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and **they took the city**.

Jericho fell because Israel **shouted in obedience**
to God's instruction!

4. Proclaim – **Declaring our faith ahead of action**

2 Corinthians 4:13 And since we have the same **spirit of faith**, according to what is written, “**I believed and therefore I spoke,**” **we also believe and therefore (we) speak.**

Principle: Faith **speaks** before it **sees**

Hebrews 11:1 Now **faith is the substance** of things hoped for, the evidence of things **not seen**.

Hebrews 11:6

Prayer Of Faith
S-Songs

When You Are Facing Giants

III. Giants must be faced



III. Giants must be faced.

Principle:

God fights for all who **call** and are **surrendered** to Him

In the **Scriptures we looked at to now**, “giants” represent:

- whatever that stands in the way of **God's people** fulfilling their God-given **destiny** (*Israel and the Promised Land*)
- whatever challenges **God's People** and attack their **covenant rights and identity** (*David and Goliath*)

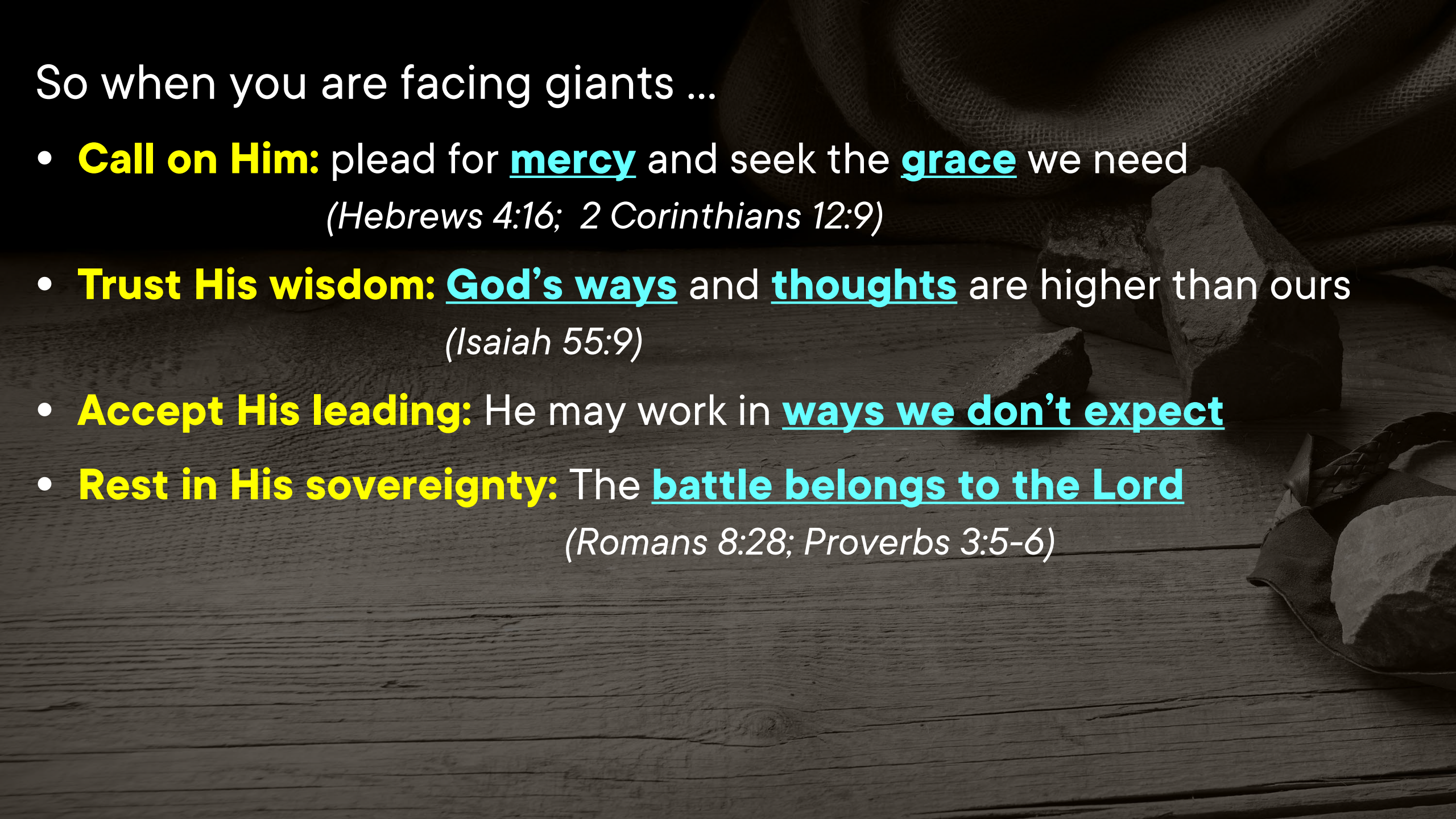
III. Giants must be faced.

In the **broader scope of Scriptures**, “giants” represent:

- the **fallenness** of a world where sin has corrupted people and systems (*Romans 3:23; John 16:33*)

- Financial problems
- Health crisis
- Betrayal
- Loss
- Relational Conflicts
- Difficult Situations

Matthew 7:25-rain-wind-flood



So when you are facing giants ...

- **Call on Him:** plead for mercy and seek the grace we need
(Hebrews 4:16; 2 Corinthians 12:9)
- **Trust His wisdom:** God's ways and thoughts are higher than ours
(Isaiah 55:9)
- **Accept His leading:** He may work in ways we don't expect
- **Rest in His sovereignty:** The battle belongs to the Lord
(Romans 8:28; Proverbs 3:5-6)

SUMMARY: The Keys to David's Victory:

- 1. Perspective - Adopting a God-Centred Perspective**
- 2. Practice - Proven Private Faith**
- 3. People - Surrounding ourselves with the Right People**
- 4. Proclaim - Declaring our faith ahead of action**

BOTTOM-LINE

What “giant” is standing in your way?

- Same God who parted the Red Sea and dropped Jericho walls
- Not asking us to be strong enough, but to trust enough
- Not asking us to fight harder, but to trust deeper
- Not set our heart on the size of the storm, but on the Strength of the Saviour
- To lift our eyes not to the giant, but to the God who reigns above the giants
- Walk forward not because we are fearless, but because we know Who walks besides us and proclaim Him always!

BOTTOM-LINE

1 Corinthians 15:57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the **victory** through our **Lord Jesus Christ**.

**The battle belongs
to the LORD!**

