



David and Goliath

1 Samuel 17:32-51

Scoop put his feet on his desk and let out a loud sigh, his mind wandered to the events of the recent days. The newspaper's head printer stopped by the newsroom to refill his coffee cup, "Wow," Scoop said to him, "Things have been pretty peaceful here in King City ever since the Redeem Team locked up the Philistine. It's good to know that God has given King City two heroes to protect her from evil. And all the excitement sure helps sell newspapers!"

"That's true, Scoop. We've sold a ton of newspapers!" the printer agreed. "Why, we've not sold this many since the great flood of 19..."

He was interrupted by the jangling ring of the big black phone on Scoop's desk. "There's the hotline!" Scoop announced, as he stretched to pick up the receiver. "Scoop here. What's that? The Obliterator is getting out of prison? He's promising to get revenge on Scripture Guy? Thanks for the heads up!" He put down the receiver and stood up quickly. "The Obliterator is back! I'd better put in a call to the Redeem Team." Just as he lifted the receiver again to make the call, Kingdom Crusader burst through the door and strode across the large room.

"Hello, Scoop? Scoop Gibson?" she asked.

Scoop looked startled as he dropped the receiver back into its cradle. "That was fast!" Recovering quickly, he said, "Kingdom Crusader, I'm glad you're here. King City needs you!"

Kingdom Crusader sunk down into the straight-backed wood chair across the desk from Scoop. "Actually, that's what I wanted to talk to you about. I was hoping you could tell Scripture Guy that I'm quitting."

Scoop shook his head. "What! Quitting? But why?"

Kingdom Crusader shrugged and slid further down in the chair. "I'm not cut out for fighting crime. I just don't feel like I'm good enough. Scripture Guy is all full of muscles and power, but I'm small and weak."

Scoop stared at her for a moment. "We all start that way; even King David had small beginnings."

"King David? But he was a great man after God's own heart," she argued.

"That's true," Scoop agreed, leaning forward to make his next point. "But, he started out as a simple shepherd boy. That's when he learned to trust God."

"The Lord is my Shepherd!" Kingdom Crusader exclaimed.

Scoop smiled and nodded. "That's right! We call God our shepherd because He watches over us and protects us. David was a shepherd and he had to protect his sheep from a lion!"

Kingdom Crusader sat up a little straighter. "A lion? For real?!"

"For real. That's part of a shepherd's job." Scoop picked up the Bible from his desk and opened it to 1 Samuel 17.

"A boy killed a lion? That's hard to believe," Kingdom Crusader scoffed.

"Believe it! With God all things are possible. But that was just the beginning. God was preparing David for a greater battle," Scoop explained.

"What's next, a bear?" Kingdom Crusader asked sarcastically.

"Actually, yes," Scoop laughed.

Kingdom Crusader's eyes grew wide with disbelief. "David fought a bear? Wasn't he afraid?"

"David trusted in the one true God," Scoop answered, "and God was preparing him for an even greater battle; the giant!"

"Wait, I've heard this one before!" Kingdom Crusader said. "Was the giant's name Goliath?"

"Yes," Scoop confirmed, "he was over nine feet tall and every man in King Saul's army was afraid to face him."

"Except for David, right?" guessed Kingdom Crusader.

Scoop read from the Bible, "David came to King Saul and said, 'Let no one lose heart on account of this Philistine; your servant will go and fight him.'"

"Wow, David sure trusted God. I guess he was prepared!" Kingdom Crusader breathed.

"God had prepared him," Scripture Guy agreed, "but King Saul didn't trust that God alone could protect David, so Saul put his own armor on him."

"But Saul was a tall man, taller than all the people around him, and David was just young boy? That armor must have been huge on him!" Kingdom Crusader protested.

"Maybe so," said Scripture Guy, "but one thing is true, David took the armor off. He said he wasn't used to wearing armor. He picked up five smooth stones and grabbed his staff and a sling instead."

Kingdom Crusader almost jumped out of her chair. "He fought a giant with a slingshot and shepherd's staff?! That's crazy!"

"Even Goliath thought so. Listen to what he said." Scripture Guy read from the Bible, "'Am I a dog, that you come at me with sticks?' Then he cursed David and said, 'Come here!'"

"Did David run away?" Kingdom Crusader asked.

"Of course not! Remember God had prepared David to trust Him," said Scripture Guy. "Instead, David answered, 'All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the Lord saves; for the battle is the Lord's, and He will give all of you into our hands.'"

"Then David conked Goliath in the head with just one stone!" Kingdom Crusader guessed.

"You're exactly right!" Scripture Guy said. Then he read, "David triumphed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone; without a sword in his hand he struck down the Philistine."

"Wow, David trusted God and look what happened!" Kingdom Crusader exclaimed.

"With God on our side, we can face giant battles." Scoop paused and looked at the young superhero. "So, do you still feel too small and weak to protect King City?"

"No! I may be weak and small, but I'll be fine because God will prepare me for whatever battle I must face," Kingdom Crusader declared.

"So, do you think you'll stick around?" Scoop asked.

"You're not getting rid of me that easily! I'm part of the Redeem Team," she replied confidently, as she rose to her feet. "God knows my heart and He chose me to do His good works. I'm going to find Scripture Guy and tell him that I'm prepared to give everything to honor my King!" Standing as tall as she could with her shoulders back and chin up, Kingdom Crusader marched out the door.

Scoop watched her leave and then smiled a broad smile. "There goes a woman after God's own heart. It's amazing what a little bit of Scripture can do." After a moment, he stood up and followed her out the door. "Guess I better find a phone booth and change into Scripture Guy, so she can find me. Together, we can fight the Obliterator," he thought to himself.