

The Principles Session 7

1. **Giants are hindrances that are real and must be faced.**

They are powerful obstacles to the cure of the need we attempt to fill. Somehow they must be overcome.

"For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world, and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms" Ephesians 6:12

2. **Life's greatest climaxes and victories come in the Valley of Giants.**

Because the Giants are tall, God gets more glory.

3. **God's greatest desire is for giant-killers.**

"For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him." 2 Chronicles 16:9

The Pitfalls Session 7

Myths and misconceptions about the Valley of Giants.

1. **"Extreme courage: unnecessary. The Giants will go down easily."**

Truth: This world's needs and wrongs become strongholds. Over time they strengthen and become more resistant to those who try to overcome them. There can be great danger, even physical danger, in taking on the giants that block your dream.

2. **"Extreme criticism: unlikely. People will respect the good I am trying to do."**

Truth: Criticism will come from unlikely the most surprising corners- from friends, associates, or even those we are trying to help.

The Pattern Session 7

There are many ways to take on Giants. Be discerning and creative,

1. **Avoidance:** If possible, simply stay away from the giant.

"There was a plot afoot among the Gentiles and Jews, together with their leaders, to mistreat them and stone them. But they found out about it and fled to the Lycaonian cities of Lystra and Derbe and to the surrounding country." Acts 14:5-6

Paul and his companions avoid their opponents, and live to fight another day.

2. **Alliance:** Partner with others or even the giant himself.

"Then Agrippa said to Paul, 'Do you think that in such a short time you can persuade me to be a Christian?'" Acts 26:28

Paul is tried by the king, and attempts to win him over.

3. **Attack:** Sometimes direct conflict is necessary.

"While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there." Acts 17:16-17



My Own Journey Session 7

1. The greatest Giant I have overcome in my life is:

2. While Giants are unpredictable, some of the greater obstacles I would expect to come up against in my own quest are:

3. For facing the Giants in the list above, here are some of the creative strategies that might be the most appropriate:

4. On a scale of 1-10, 10 being the strongest, here is how I would grade my own present readiness for the Valley of the Giants:

5. Here is what I believe I must do in life to become stronger, wiser, and better prepared to face the Giants who will come forth to oppose me:

6. Therefore I make the following commitment(s) to act, beginning today, in accordance with the above:

Action(s):

When:

Who to tell:

Signed:

Date:

My Groups Journey Session 7

1. As you worked through this session, what was your greatest new insight about the obstacles known as Giants? Why?

2. Study the verses about David's words to the giant Goliath (1 Samuel 17:45-47) From what powerful idea does David draw his strength?

3. Even in faith, David had no guarantee of victory. Why do you think he was willing to take such a risk? How would you rate your own dreams in "life or death" value? Let various members respond.

4. What was David's true goal for the task of killing the giant? (verse 47)

5. Spend time in groups of two, discussing the Giants in your life and praying together for God to be glorified in your victory over them.