CONTEND:
Passionate prayer fuelled by holy discontent

Contend: Praying in Front of Giants
[David and Goliath: 1 Samuel 17 (NLT)]

1. Taking off the Heavy armour

Once David steps up to fight with Goliath, King Saul coats David in what he thinks he might need; to be covered head to toe in royal armour. David couldn't move when he put it on. Choosing what we think is best will often lead to us feeling like we're being weighed down. The Bible calls this 'Sin'. David chooses to go on a walk with God, and take off what would otherwise hold him back. For us, this can look like spending some quiet time with God, saying sorry and receiving his forgiveness.
What God showed David on the walk, was the key to his fight with the Giant problem in front of him…

2. A Familiar Weight in our Hands

The 5 stones in David's shepherd bag must've felt familiar to him. Earlier he said in verse in 37 :
'The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine."'
As a shepherd, to walk with those stones in his hand must have been a powerful reminded of God's provision of his whole life, poignantly, right as he walked up to Goliath. The faith David had in God was colossal in order to keep on walking to what might have looked like an impossible. God's provision in our past isn't misplaced. We can ask God to reveal more from how he has delivered us from giants, to help us face our giants ahead of us.

Questions for reflection

How often do you say sorry to God? What would change if you repented more or less often?

What have I learnt that I want to hold on to?
When was the first and last time you can remember feeling God's presence?
Is there anything stopping you from setting aside time with God ?

How am I going to put it into practice?
What has God done in your life that has an impact on how you live your life?
Do you have an object or place that reminds you of of God's provision?

We believe our God-given vision is see:
thriving communities springing up,
where everyone can belong and find hope in Jesus.

Springfield Church