



SESSION FOUR: LESSONS FIVE AND SIX

WATCH THE MESSAGE AND FILL IN THE BLANKS

INTRODUCTION:

We are in the middle of a series called Face Your Giants. We're talking about dealing with the things that _____ : things that overwhelm us, intimidate us, or oppress us.

A giant is anything that's between you and the _____ of God.

Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts. Hebrew 3:15

Don't lean out; lean in because when God is _____, and you want to go with him.

There's a great story of the Israelites as they're on their way to the Promised Land and about to go into it. They run into a nation of _____.

See, I have given into your hand Sihon the Amorite, King of Heshbon, and his country. Begin to take possession of it and engage him in battle. Deuteronomy 2:24

It's time to deal with that which could hold you back.

I sent messengers to Sihon king of Heshbon offering peace and saying, "Let us pass through your country... Sell us food to eat and water to drink... Only let us pass through on foot. Deuteronomy 2:26-28

But look what God does:

But Sihon King of Heshbon refused to let us pass through. For the Lord your God had made his spirit stubborn and his heart obstinate in order to give him into your hands, as he has now done. Deuteronomy 2:30

If you don't face your giant, God will cause your giant to come and face you. If you're not willing to go to battle, God will bring the _____ to you because He wants you to live in freedom (Romans 8:37).

We're looking at Old Testament stories of the people of God fighting real _____ giants and learning how to face our _____ giants.

What we're doing is creating a manifesto — a guidebook, if you will — of different lessons of what it looks like to face our giants.

Your future is on the other side of the giant you _____ want to face.

LESSON NUMBER FIVE: BE AWARE THAT GOD IS WITH YOU

Giant killers are more aware of the God who is _____ them than the giants that are in _____ of them. God constantly says, "Do not be afraid for I am with you".

Consider Joshua.

Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9

God's presence in your life is the antidote for _____ and fear, and it will make you strong and courageous.

Or, how about David?

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me. Psalm 23:4

I'm not afraid. Why? Because I know God is with me.

If God is for us, who could be against us? Romans 8:31 NIV84

If God is with you, it means He's _____ you.

When you start figuring out that the most powerful person in the universe is with you, you start looking at all the promises of God that he has given you, and you start walking right in the face of that darkness, and you say, "That's _____, and I'm going to get it in Jesus name.".

There are five main facets of the presence of God.

First thing is His presence _____ us together.

In him, all things hold together. Colossians 1:17

The second is His presence _____ us.

Where can I go from your spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? Psalm 139:7

Wherever you go, there God is.

Third dimension is His presence is _____ us. The moment we put our faith in Jesus, the Spirit of the

living God comes inside of us.

He breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit." John 20:22 NIV84

The very presence of God has decided that His _____ would be in your heart.

Fourth dimension is His presences in our _____ relationships.

For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them. Matthew 18:20

When we get together with other followers of Jesus, Jesus Himself says it's like He shows up, and He hangs out with us.

The fifth dimension is His presence is _____ in our worship.

You are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel. Psalm 22:3 ESV

We built a throne with our worship, with our praise, and Jesus Himself comes and sits on that throne.

Stop. Can you be _____ that He is with you right now?

That's how you walk in victory over your giants. Because if He is with you, then so is all the power and the authority and the healing and the grace of heaven.

Giant _____ are deeply aware of the presence of God.

If the Lord is pleased with us, he will lead us into that land, a land flowing with milk and honey, and will give it to us. Only do not rebel against the Lord. And do not be afraid of the people of the land, because we will swallow them up. Their protection is gone, but the Lord is with us. Do not be afraid of them. Numbers 14:8-9

I think most of us don't believe God is with us because we don't think He's pleased with us. We think, "I've got to _____ myself up before God will be pleased with me."

But what we forget is that His grace is _____ than your failure. In Jesus, God is pleased with you right now.

And here's how you know you're starting to become aware that God is with you: you start _____ how you live.

LESSON NUMBER SIX: WORSHIP IS A WARRIOR'S GREATEST WEAPON

When you become aware that God is with you, you get your greatest weapon, and it's worship.

You won't find one giant killer in the Bible that didn't have a _____ for God and didn't have a _____ for worship.

Moses, Joshua, David, the disciples, the people in our church that find victory over their giants; they're all worshippers.

Do you know what Jesus did right before He went to the cross to face the giants of sin, death, and the grave? It says they _____ together.

When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Matthew 26:30

Worship is just lifting up the name of Jesus.

Whether you've realized this or not, this is a series on _____ warfare.

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

People aren't your giants. The giants you're fighting are spiritual in nature.

Spiritual warfare isn't about the _____ ; it's about Jesus. Spiritual warfare isn't about fighting _____ victory. It's about fighting _____ victory.

The one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. 1 John 4:4

In spiritual warfare, the battle is not for victory; it's for your worship. Worship is all about winning the battle in here regardless of what the giant is doing out there.

But when he saw the strong wind and the waves, he was terrified and began to sink. Matthew 14:30 NLT

The moment Peter took his eyes off Jesus and looked at the giant in front of him, he began to _____. This is worship and spiritual warfare.

So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. 2 Corinthians 4:18

We want to look not at the temporary giant in front of us, but the _____ God who is with us.

May God arise, may his enemies be scattered; may his foes flee before him. Psalm 68:1

May the praise of God be in their mouths and a double-edged sword be in their hands. Psalm 149:6

Worship is your _____ weapon. You stop looking at this thing, and you start _____ the God of the universe.

The first battle the Israelites fought was against the city of Jericho. They were asked to walk around the walls and _____.

Why would God have them do that? Because for seven days, God was trying to say, "Stop looking at _____, and start looking at _____."

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. 1 Samuel 17:47

You can _____ about your giant, or you can worship your God, but you can't do both.

I want to worship my God and lift Him up and let peace, joy, love, faith, and redemption ring down upon my life (see also Psalm 63:4 TPT and Psalm 96:12 (NIV84)).

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Psalm 100:1

Worship is our battle song and our victory cry. And when we worship, we're drowning out the _____ of the giant's roar.

"You've trained me with the weapons of warfare - worship; now I'll descend into battle with power to chase and conquer my foes. Psalm 18:34 TPT

Facing your giant is worship because it's saying that you have more faith in the _____ of your God than the giant who is in front of you.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- Are you aware that God is with you right now? That He's holding your body together? That He is surrounding you? That, as a follower of Jesus, He is stirring inside of you? That He wants to sit on the throne of your praise? Which of these truths do you need to believe the most and why?
- If worship is turning the attention and affection and focus of your heart toward the most powerful thing in the room, do you find yourself spending more time worshiping your giant or Jesus? Why?
- If worship is your greatest weapon, are you using it to face your giants? During the week, do you have at least one worship song on at any point in time? If not, go to YouTube and search "Valley Creek Church Worship", and download a worship song or two. Use these songs to direct your attention away from your giant and back to Jesus.

ASK, LISTEN, RESPOND

- Take some time right now to ask God what He wants to say to you.
- Spend a moment listening to His voice.
- Write down how you are going to respond to God's invitation.

MY NEXT STEP IS: