

# A Call for Champions:

## How God builds campus missionaries



### theme

One of God's chief champions today is the campus missionary.

### proposition

The story of David and Goliath reveals the pattern from which God builds His champions.

**text:** 1 Samuel 17:1–11,16

### introduction

Every so often, one of God's champions does something so heroic the world stops, stands in awe and opens its eyes—even if just for a moment. In that moment, when spiritually blind eyes are opened, the Holy Spirit rescues souls from the grips of Satan's rebellion. Their eyes are opened. They choose Christ, and they are born again.

The oppressed and hurting in this world desperately need more champions to rise up and commit to the cause of Christ. "When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd" (Matthew 9:36, NIV). In every generation, God looks to build champions for Christ. One of God's chief champions in this generation is the campus missionary.

### BOX OF BASICS

#### God builds CMs

- I. From the inside out.
- II. By the way of faith.
- III. Through the course of life.
- IV. Through something bigger than oneself.
- V. By His own hands.

### God builds campus missionaries:

- I. From the inside out (1 Samuel 16:7).
  - A. God builds His people for greatness on the basis of inward character, not on the basis of outward impressions.
  - B. Jesus saves from the inside out.
  - C. Potentially, anyone can be God's next champion.
- II. By the way of faith (Hebrews 11:32,33).
  - A. David was a man of faith. God gives a clear understanding of David's way of life in Hebrews 11:32–34,39,40.
  - B. Faith is the heritage of the students of God's Word (Romans 10:17). David said the Word of God was a lamp unto his feet and a light unto his path (Psalm 119:105). David loved God's Word and walked the way of faith.
  - C. Faith can be anyone's heritage. Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you" (Matthew 17:20, NIV).
- III. Through the course of life (1 Samuel 17:37).
  - A. As a young teen, David kept his family's flock of sheep.
  - B. On a couple of occasions, he had to protect the flock from certain death: once from a lion and once from a bear.

### notes:

## A Call for Champions (continued)

- C. Often, God uses one moment in life to build upon another. The Bible says we are built “precept upon precept” (Isaiah 28:10, KJV).
- E. Through the course of Christian living, God shows His work through the believer.

### IV. Through something bigger than oneself (1 Samuel 17:4; 2 Samuel 22:30).

- A. God uses the seemingly impossible to build His champions.
- B. Goliath was almost twice David’s size. Nevertheless, God used the giant to build David into a champion.
- C. Give a personal example of a time when God enabled you to overcome a seemingly impossible circumstance in your life.
- D. Giants will never be greater than God’s confidence in us.

### V. By His own hands (Hebrews 11:32–34).

“David...who stopped the mouths of lions...whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies” (Hebrews 11:32–34, NIV).

- A. When David stepped forward to fight the Philistine giant, God put His hand on him!
- B. With God’s hand on you, you’re destined to live a victorious life.
- C. When you step forward in obedience to God’s voice, you will be one of His champions.

## conclusion

God is calling for campus missionaries. A few years ago *TIME Magazine* had an article titled, “The Day God Took Over” (David Van Biema, June 5, 2000). The article reported on the recruitment assembly for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes at a high school in Carriere, Mississippi. The FCA group performed a Christian drama depicting the ministry of Jesus. It was not an exceptionally well-acted drama; they only practiced it twice. During the drama, students began to weep in repentance over their sins. That simple little skit turned into a five-hour, day-long revival that impacted the school and the city.

Who were some of the key players in that drama? They were campus missionaries. May God give us more campus missionaries even today!

(Transition into commissioning service.)

notes: