A Giant Problem

When has a person or a problem dominated you, leaving you hopeless?

Read 1 Samuel 17:1-58.

- 1. What made the Philistines able to dominate the Israelites?
 - A. A giant named Goliath.
 - B. The Philistines had a history of dominating the Israelites.
 - C. Better weapons.
 - D. They weren't dominating—it was a stalemate.
 - E. Avoiding a one-on-one battle with Goliath, the Israelites hadn't lost.
 - F. Daily verbal attacks from Goliath.
 - G. Intimidation.
 - H. No Israelite hero to counter the Philistine giant.
 - I. Other.
- 2. In what way(s) were the Israelites "fighting" the Philistines (vs 19)?
 - A. They weren't fighting.
 - B. They hadn't given up any ground.
 - C. Saul kept encouraging the Israelites.
 - D. The Israelites cut off the supply lines to the Philistines.
 - E. Daily prayer and worship.
 - F. They decided to cast lots to see who would fight Goliath.
 - G. Remaining silent when Goliath taunted them.
 - H. Practicing slingshot skills.
 - I. Other.
- 3. Why did David offer to fight Goliath?
 - A. He believed he could defeat this giant.
 - B. He felt certain God would defeat this giant.
 - C. Young people often believe unrealistic things.
 - D. He expected great rewards if he succeeded.
 - E. David had killed wild animals, so why not a giant?
 - F. This was David's reaction since Goliath had defied Israel's God.
 - G. It gave him a chance to try on King Saul's armor.
 - H. Nobody else had offered to fight him through 40 days of taunting.
 - I. Other.

- 4. Why was David able to defeat Goliath?
 - A. He got lucky.
 - B. David had incredible skill with his slingshot.
 - C. The overconfidence of the Philistines.
 - D. It was supernatural—God gave him the victory.
 - E. Goliath was all talk, but not a good warrior.
 - F. David had tremendous faith in God.
 - G. Courage and confidence.
 - H. Other.
- 5. Why didn't King Saul know who David was (vs 55-58)?
 - A. When you're the king, you can't know everyone.
 - B. Saul asked about David's father, not about David.
 - C. The promise of "no taxes" for David's whole family.
 - D. Saul hoped this fine young man had other brothers for his army.
 - E. For Saul to give his daughter in marriage meant meeting the family.
 - F. Chapter 17 should come before chapter 16:14-23, not after it.
 - G. King Saul saw David as a musician, not a warrior.
 - H. Other.
- 6. Why is the story of David and Goliath such a favorite?
 - A. It's not a favorite with many people.
 - B. Most people love to hear about the underdog winning.
 - C. It's so easy to relate to tormenting giants in our lives.
 - D. It builds faith in God.
 - E. I've heard the story so many times I don't want to hear it again.
 - F. It inspires us with hope.
 - G. It fuels our fascination with power and destruction.
 - H. Other.
- 7. What gives you hope, especially when things seem hopeless?
- 8. What are examples of giants in your life?