

# Serve God's Purpose

## Part 3

*“For when David had served God’s purpose in his own generation.” (Acts 13:36a NIV)  
“For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God.” (Acts 13:36a KJV)*

God had a plan and a purpose in your life; he created you to achieve that purpose, *“for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.” (Philippians 2:13)* Days might look alike but every day is integrated with certain things that God had prepared and allowed for us to pass through. You will be facing different experiences and passes through various circumstances. But don't be amazed or perplexed God allow that for a certain purpose in your life that His plan for you finally would be achieved.

From the life of David we can extract and apply the following points:

**4- David accepted God's challenge that he put ahead of Him:** David was faced by a challenge that King Saul and all Israel were facing. *“<sup>d</sup> Now the Philistines gathered their forces for war and assembled at Socoh in Judah. They pitched camp at Ephes Dammim, between Socoh and Azekah. <sup>2</sup> Saul and the Israelites assembled and camped in the Valley of Elah and drew up their battle line to meet the Philistines. <sup>3</sup> The Philistines occupied one hill and the Israelites another, with the valley between them. <sup>4</sup> A champion named Goliath, who was from Gath, came out of the Philistine camp. He was over nine feet tall. <sup>5</sup> He had a bronze helmet on his head and wore a coat of scale armor of bronze weighing five thousand shekels; <sup>6</sup> on his legs he wore bronze greaves, and a bronze javelin was slung on his back. <sup>7</sup> His spear shaft was like a weaver's rod, and its iron point weighed six hundred shekels. His shield bearer went ahead of him. <sup>8</sup> Goliath stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, “Why do you come out and line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not the servants of Saul? Choose a man and have him come down to me. <sup>9</sup> If he is able to fight and kill me, we will become your subjects; but if I overcome him and kill him, you will become our subjects and serve us.” <sup>10</sup> Then the Philistine said, “This day I defy the ranks of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other.” <sup>11</sup> On hearing the Philistine's words, Saul and all the Israelites were dismayed and terrified.” (1Samuel 17:1-11)* Goliath was a huge man size and with strong armour and he was armed with powerful weapons. He defied the Israelites that the battle can be settled with only a single fight. The one who win will subdue the opposite army. Goliath was so overconfidence of his victory because he trusted in the arm of flesh that he had-the huge size of his body, the strength of his armor and the might of his weapons. Also the Israelites were dismayed and terrified by all the above factors. In certain occasion of life we will be baffled with certain challenges that God allowed and we

need to pass through so we can reach to the next post that God had prepared for us to be.

God now moved to bring David into the scene, *“<sup>12</sup> Now David was the son of an Ephrathite named Jesse, who was from Bethlehem in Judah. Jesse had eight sons, and in Saul's time he was old and well advanced in years. <sup>13</sup> Jesse's three oldest sons had followed Saul to the war: The firstborn was Eliab; the second, Abinadab; and the third, Shammah. <sup>14</sup> David was the youngest. The three oldest followed Saul, <sup>15</sup> but David went back and forth from Saul to tend his father's sheep at Bethlehem. <sup>16</sup> For forty days the Philistine came forward every morning and evening and took his stand. <sup>17</sup> Now Jesse said to his son David, “Take this ephah of roasted grain and these ten loaves of bread for your brothers and hurry to their camp. <sup>18</sup> Take along these ten cheeses to the commander of their unit. See how your brothers are and bring back some assurance from them. <sup>19</sup> They are with Saul and all the men of Israel in the Valley of Elah, fighting against the Philistines.” <sup>20</sup> Early in the morning David left the flock with a shepherd, loaded up and set out, as Jesse had directed. He reached the camp as the army was going out to its battle positions, shouting the war cry. <sup>21</sup> Israel and the Philistines were drawing up their lines facing each other. <sup>22</sup> David left his things with the keeper of supplies, ran to the battle lines and greeted his brothers. <sup>23</sup> As he was talking with them, Goliath, the Philistine champion from Gath, stepped out from his lines and shouted his usual defiance, and David heard it. <sup>24</sup> When the Israelites saw the man, they all ran from him in great fear.” (1Samuel 17:12-24)* As God brought David in that situation for a certain purpose God will bring you where he wants you to be for a certain purpose God wants to achieve in your life.

*“<sup>25</sup> Now the Israelites had been saying, “Do you see how this man keeps coming out? He comes out to defy Israel. The king will give great wealth to the man who kills him. He will also give him his daughter in marriage and will exempt his father's family from taxes in Israel.” <sup>26</sup> David asked the men standing near him, “What will be done for the man who kills this Philistine and removes this disgrace from Israel? Who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?” <sup>27</sup> They repeated to him what they had been saying and told him, “This is what will be done for the man who kills him. <sup>28</sup> When Eliab, David's oldest brother, heard him speaking with the men, he burned with anger at him and asked, “Why have you come down here? And with whom did you leave those few sheep in the desert? I know how conceited you are and how wicked your heart is;*

you came down only to watch the battle.”<sup>29</sup> “Now what have I done?” said David. “Can’t I even speak?”<sup>30</sup> He then turned away to someone else and brought up the same matter, and the men answered him as before.<sup>31</sup> What David said was overheard and reported to Saul, and Saul sent for him.” (1Samuel 17:25-31) God made a way that David would be meeting King Saul for that particular matter. David requested that he will go to fight that Champion and after a discussion King Saul allowed David to go out and fight the battle as we can read. “<sup>32</sup> David said to Saul, “Let no one lose heart on account of this Philistine; your servant will go and fight him.”<sup>33</sup> Saul replied, “You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him; you are only a boy, and he has been a fighting man from his youth.”<sup>34</sup> But David said to Saul, “Your servant has been keeping his father’s sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock,<sup>35</sup> I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it.<sup>36</sup> Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God.<sup>37</sup> The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.” Saul said to David, “Go, and the LORD be with you.” (1Samuel 17:32-37)

<sup>38</sup> Then Saul dressed David in his own tunic. He put a coat of armor on him and a bronze helmet on his head.<sup>39</sup> David fastened on his sword over the tunic and tried walking around, because he was not used to them. “I cannot go in these,” he said to Saul, “because I am not used to them.” So he took them off.<sup>40</sup> Then he took his staff in his hand, chose five smooth stones from the stream, put them in the pouch of his shepherd’s bag and, with his sling in his hand, approached the Philistine.” (1Samuel 17:38-40) David refused to go along the traditional weapons and armour that people trust on but he got with him what he knew to use.

<sup>41</sup> Meanwhile, the Philistine, with his shield bearer in front of him, kept coming closer to David.<sup>42</sup> He looked David over and saw that he was only a boy, ruddy and handsome, and he despised him.<sup>43</sup> He said to David, “Am I a dog, that you come at me with sticks?” And the Philistine cursed David by his gods.<sup>44</sup> “Come here,” he said, “and I’ll give your flesh to the birds of the air and the beasts of the field!”<sup>45</sup> David said to the Philistine, “You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.<sup>46</sup> This day the LORD will hand you over to me, and I’ll strike you down and cut off your head. Today I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds of the air and the beasts of the earth, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel.<sup>47</sup> All those gathered here will know that 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.”<sup>48</sup> As the Philistine moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly toward the battle line to

meet him.<sup>49</sup> Reaching into his bag and taking out a stone, he slung it and struck the Philistine on the forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell facedown on the ground.<sup>50</sup> So David triumphed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone; without a sword in his hand he struck down the Philistine and killed him.<sup>51</sup> David ran and stood over him. He took hold of the Philistine’s sword and drew it from the scabbard. After he killed him, he cut off his head with the sword.” (1Samuel 17:41-51) David was able to win the battle and brought victory for Israel because he was willing to accept the challenge that God allowed to come across his life. And three more factors we can put here that contribute to David victory over Goliath the Philistine.

- A- **His full trust in God:** David had faith in God that he will enable him to win the battle; that does not need sword and spear as David said, “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.” And as the word of God teaches us, “<sup>7</sup> Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.<sup>8</sup> They are brought to their knees and fall, but we rise up and stand firm.” (Psalm 20:7-8) Trust God for he will be the one who can deliver you from all your troubles.
- B- **He used His skills and the experience that he had being a shepherd:** David dealt with Goliath as he was dealing with a bear or lion that attacked his sheep. And he used the things that he skilled with. In achieving God’s purpose in your life God may lead you to use the things that you are skilled with and is well experienced.
- C- **He was motivated with the reward that he would receive:** David was motivated to go and fight with the reward that King Saul assigned to the person who would go and stand firm against the enemy.

**My Dear and Beloved:** let us be motivated with God reward for us to have eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord, and let us be motivated with all the promises of God that He promised to those who serve Him as you agree and pray.

**My Prayer:** “Father God in heaven, I come before you in Jesus name who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your clear word to me, Lord I accept the challenge that you place ahead of me when you called me to serve you and live my life to you. Lord build up my faith more in you and equip me so I can go forward and achieve your will, this is my prayer in Jesus’ name, Amen.