

The Underdog Story

Message Notes:

- We have been created in the image of God. Does he enjoy a cliff-hanger ending or tension in a story as much as we do? (having these elements makes a good story)
- It is not by accident we're drawn time and again to the same type of stories; it's a reflection of God's design. God loves good stories; heroes win, the characters trust things will work out, there is power beyond ourselves, the underdog triumphs, etc.
- At the beginning of our lives, we have an inkling of what we want to, or what we must, do. David with Goliath is an example of being put where we need to be at the right time. David went to bring food, and saw the fighting going on in the process, which led to his defeat of Goliath.
- God uses the underdog. Saul, the least of his tribe, was told he would be King. David, the youngest of his brothers, was given King Saul's daughter's hand in marriage. Moses, a man who struggled to talk to people, was called to save his people at the burning bush.
- Age, physical traits, mental infirmities; they don't matter to God. He calls all people. Even if you are incomplete, God can, and will, use you. It doesn't matter who you are, by his Spirit he calls on all of us again and again, amplifying the natural giftings he has given us.
- If we do not see triumph in this life, it doesn't mean you've failed. God sees beyond this world.
- For many people, the worst that can happen is death. But death is not a big deal, rather, it is a triumph bought by Jesus. We will not even taste of death, as the three boys in the fiery furnace didn't even smell of smoke.
- The enemy didn't know how Jesus would achieve his victory. He may have assumed Jesus would set up his kingdom on Earth, so he had Jesus tortured and killed. After Jesus died, he went and preached to all those who had died before he came, robbing death of many souls and taking their keys of death.
- Jesus became the lowest of lows, had everything taken from him, was killed on the cross, and *triumphed*. (unexpected ending)
- Almost every 'hero' of the Bible went through things that brought them low, or made them appear weak. Still, they triumphed and became known as heroes of the faith.
- Don't be discouraged when you're struggling. God will help you triumph over the fight. There will be resurrection over the things we're fighting.
- God sings over us, dances around us. When we praise him, we join in.
- Jesus purchase us from death. That is the cliff-hanger ending.