

In the Shadow of Giants

Session 1

Giants in the Land

Numbers 13:25-33

The Israelite people have escaped slavery in Egypt and are standing on the edge of the Promised Land. Even so, they become terrified of this new opportunity. Rumors have it that giants live in the land and will devour them once they set foot inside. Fear keeps them from entering the Promised Land and fear keeps them frozen in place. It takes them 40 years to come back to the land, but hopefully fear will not keep us from walking into the new life God is offering us.

Session 2

Greatness in Weakness

1 Samuel 16:1-13

We often believe that what is big and large is the best, yet God chooses the smallest and weakest to be a leader. God chooses David, the smallest of the bunch, to be the next King of Israel. David did not seem qualified. He was the youngest and weakest. He was also not perfect. God chooses a lot of imperfect and unqualified people in the Bible to be his representatives to the world. In baptism, we remember that God claims us as imperfect and unqualified people to be his faithful servants.

Session 3

David and Goliath

1 Samuel 17:32-50

The story of David and Goliath is about the underdog winning the fight. David did not need any armor or weapons because that was not in his nature to wear such things. The armor didn't fit him. Sometimes without knowing it, we can put on armor that does not belong to us. This armor slows us down and keeps us from being who God created us to be. How can we live without filters so that we have real and meaningful relationships with God, ourselves and others?

Session 4

Light in the Shadows

Matthew 5:14-16

It can seem overwhelming to try to address the problems of this world. Poverty, hunger, homelessness, bullying, racism, hatred all seem to be more powerful than any good we can do. Yet God's light still shines in the darkness and the light of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection proves to us that these overwhelming problems will not have the final say. Just a little candle can bring a lot of light to a room. What one thing can you do as you leave here to make the world a brighter place?