



ROCK ETERNAL CHURCH



PS. REENUKUMAR

WINNING WITH WHAT WE HAVE

We've been following this series of "Winning Lost Battles". This week we are going to follow "Winning with what we have". We feel that what we have is not adequate enough to win or overcome. Many times we say "I could have done better if I had that." Success does not depend on what God has given others, but success depends on what God has given us!

Hence, today God is going to bless us with what we have. We are going to succeed and overcome with what we have and not what others have. What I have is sufficient and what I have is plenty. Everything is God-given and that is enough for me.

I shall dwell on a known story today – the story of David and Goliath. We all want to be Davids and love to be in the story. But the reality is, we are not willing to take the risk. We have not taken the risk and gone on the faith. My dear children of God believe in what God has given you and take the risk. People also stop us from taking the risk.

But let us think,

WHAT DID DAVID DO TO TAKE THIS RISK?

1. *Why did David win?* – Because he did not take the advise from others.

1 Samuel 17:32-33 Then David said to Saul, “Let no man’s heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine.” 33 And Saul said to David, “You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for you are a youth, and he a man of war from his youth.”

Likewise, many people will discourage us saying that ‘you are not capable of doing this’, ‘you are not fit for this, nor made for this’. Some may even quote your age. People give us advise on what to do and what not to do.

But here, David did not take Saul’s advise. Saul was supposed to go and fight. But he did not go and he was advising David not to go to fight. Similarly, many people give us advise on what they have not done. A lot of people who had to fight were discouraging David not to go and fight. They do not do it and they advise the others not to do it and they give wrong advise. You see even Saul said that Goliath was used to fighting from youth and David did not have the similar experience. If only David had listened to Saul’s advise, he would not have become the hero that day.

Always seek the counsel of God. Do not listen to the advise of people. The reason why David won is because he did not listen to the advise of the people. He listened to God.

Have you watched cricket? It is very easy for each of us to comment on how the player should've played. But there are some of us who haven't even played the game. If these players listened to what we had to say none of them would've become star cricketers today.

Hence, it is very important that we stop listening to others' advise and listen to Godly advise.

2. What fits others will not fit you – We need to focus on what fits us.

1 Samuel 17:38-39 So Saul clothed David with his armor, and he put a bronze helmet on his head; he also clothed him with a coat of mail. 39 David fastened his sword to his armor and tried to walk, for he had not tested them. And David said to Saul, "I cannot walk with these, for I have not tested them." So David took them off.

Don't think others' tools and weapons will be useful to us. Some logic may prevail, for example, Goliath wore an armour and so should David too. However, David found that it did not suit him. He wears it and walks around and then exclaims that it did not suit him.

Dear children of God, we may think that what fits others will fit us. It may be tools, talents, education, etc. Saul was a tall man, but he failed to realise that his armour would not suit David. If I were there, I would've asked, "What good is the armour if it is not useful to you?" Don't ever think we can win having others' tools and weapons. What fits others might not fit us.

3. Trust the weapons that God has given you. -

In a war, it might be weapons, but in our lives, it might be our talents, our families, children, parents, spouse, ministry etc. Believe in what God has given us.

1 Samuel 17:40 Then he took his staff in his hand; and he chose for himself five smooth stones from the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag, in a pouch which he had, and his sling was in his hand. And he drew near to the Philistine.

We might think that the tools that God has given may be irrelevant or may be small compared to others.

However, dear children of God, trust what God has given us. If David had wondered what he was going to do with the sling and the pebbles on Goliath he may not know what would've happened. But you know what? Trust God to use these small tools to give greater blessings.

Don't think that your salary is small, or your education is low compared to others, your physique is small. If you consider the corona virus, it is so invisible but yet so devastating!

Small things are powerful. Don't ever think that what we have is low. Compare the rod that Moses had to the red sea. God will give us great victory with small things. Trust in what you have, trust in what God has given you.

4. Remember that your past experience was a part of the process.

1 Samuel 17:36 Your servant has killed both lion and bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, seeing he has defied the armies of the living God.” 37 Moreover David said, “The LORD, who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.”

King Saul asks David as to how he would fight this Philistine. That is when David explains as mentioned in the above verse.

If we do not win our small trials and problems that we face, we cannot win big victories. God who saw how honest David was when he came against the lion and the bear made him stand in front of the Philistine. Big victories come from the small victories that come our way every day.

If only David sacrificed one sheep it would’ve been okay. But he looked at it as his everyday battle. Hence, God made him a shepherd over millions of people. When you avoid your everyday trials, you forget that it is the process to build you up for bigger victories.

You must start at kindergarten to reach PhD. The lower standards build you for what lies ahead. Every small step matters for a big victory.

5. Do not allow logic to interfere with your faith.

Do not allow practicality to interfere with your supernatural miracles. Don't allow logic to defy your faith.

1 Samuel 17:45-47 Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. 46 This day the LORD will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head from you. And this day I will give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. 47 Then all this assembly shall know that the LORD does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is the LORD's, and He will give you into our hands."

Logic versus faith. Logic is that Goliath is strong, faith is that David is small. David's tools versus Goliath's weapons. Five stones, a sling and staff versus a big shield, an armour and a helmet. Logic is that Goliath has the upper hand. Goliath comes with a sword and a spear and javelin and David comes in the name of the Lord. Logic versus faith. David also says that the Lord does not save with the sword and the spear but he will win by His word.

Doctors scientifically predict a lot of things. But because of faith God does miracles against their predictions. So, don't allow logic to interfere with your faith. So as I said, don't listen to others' advise, what fits others may not fit us, trust what God has given you, remember all our past experiences are a part of our process and don't allow logic to interfere with your faith.



6. Win with what you have. Be blessed with what you have.

1 Samuel 17:48-50 So it was, when the Philistine arose and came and drew near to meet David, that David hurried and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine. 49 Then David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone; and he slung it and struck the Philistine in his forehead, so that the stone sank into his forehead, and he fell on his face to the earth. 50 So

David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone, and struck the Philistine and killed him. But there was no sword in the hand of David. David won with a stone and sling and not with the sword. We can win with what we have. We have the best of everything and God will make us win with what we have.

I read this story about a missionary couple who were mentoring teenagers who were mentally challenged. They taught them various skills. One day when they were having breakfast, they needed a toaster. One child went to repair the toaster and carried slices of bread along, because the child believed that he would be able to repair the toaster and toast the bread in the same toaster.

What is our faith like? We don't believe that our life will be repaired. We don't believe that what we have will be useful.

Dear children of God, believe that what we have will be useful and will be put to use by God and it will be a great blessing.

We can win with what we have! Amen.