GOLIATH MUST FALL

Winning the Battle Against Your Giants

For Young Readers



WITH TAMA FORTNER

DISCUSSION GUIDE

THE STORY BEGINS THE GIANT

- 1 What do you already know about the story of David and Goliath from the Bible? When you read about the Israelite soldiers and King Saul, what stood out to you? What parts of the story do you find most surprising or confusing?
- 2 Have you ever wanted to do something good but were too afraid to do it? What stopped you?
- **3** What challenge or problem in your life feels as big as a giant? According to Pastor Louie, what message does God have for you about this lurking giant?

CHAPTER 1 BIGGER THAN YOUR GIANT

- 1 Why does Pastor Louie say that our giants are like having a pet tiger? Describe a time when a problem in your life grew much bigger than you thought it would. What happened as a result?
- 2 "Trying to control the world is a disaster waiting to happen" (page 4). What is your reaction to this statement? When have you tried to control something that was out of your control? What did that experience teach you?
- **3** Which of the five common giants listed in this chapter do you battle in your life? Are these different from the challenge or problem you identified in the introduction? How might they all be connected to one another?
- 4 According to Pastor Louie, how can you defeat the giants in your life? What things do you need to spend more time doing? How does the "twist" about the story of David and Goliath, explained on pages 18–22, help you see your giants in a different way?

CHAPTER 2 **DEAD BUT STILL DEADLY**

- 1 Why does Pastor Louie say that Satan is dead but still deadly? What can you do to keep his lies from poisoning you?
- 2 How can it be that the giant you are currently battling is already "dead"? What do you need to do (or stop doing) to see the battle end once and for all?
- **3** Why is it important to talk about your giants and how Jesus has knocked them down? What can you do to make sure they stay knocked down?

CHAPTER 3 FEAR MUST FALL

- 1 When was the last time you felt afraid? What caused you to feel that way? What eventually helped you to know that everything was going to be all right?
- 2 Sometimes fear is easy to identify. But sometimes it shows up in ways other than "shake-in-your-boots" fright. What does fear look like most often for you? What things does Pastor Louie say fear can take away from you?
- **3** Fill in the blank: "_____ is the cure for fear" (page 49). What tips does Pastor Louie provide to help you put this truth into practice to conquer your fears?
- **4** Which of the three reasons for fear do you think kept the Israelite army from facing Goliath? What should they have done instead to defeat the giant?

CHAPTER 4 REJECTION MUST FALL

- 1 Which of rejection's cousins—insecurity, low self-esteem, perfectionism, overachiever—do you most struggle with? Are there negative things you tell yourself over and over again because a seed of rejection has been planted?
- 2 How can social media add to our feelings of rejection? What should you remember when you are scrolling through other people's posts?
- **3** Whose acceptance should you seek if you want to defeat the giant of rejection? Which of the four ways to reject rejection do you most need to work on? Why is that one difficult for you?
- 4 How was David able to get over his three major rejections and defeat Goliath? What did he choose to focus his energy on instead of rejection? What does this tell us about the reason our giants fall?

CHAPTER 5 COMFORT MUST FALL

- 1 When does comfort become a giant? Why does Pastor Louie call comfort "the sneakiest giant of them all" (page 95)?
- 2 How does the giant of comfort show up in your life? When was the last time you avoided doing something that was important but hard? Why did you make that choice?
- **3** In what ways do we behave like the Israelites in 1 Samuel 17 by staying in the comfort zone of our churches and Christian friends? What does Jesus call us to do instead? How can this help our faith grow?
- **4** Even if you can't see the whole path God is asking you to follow, what is the next step you can take to begin to make the giant of comfort fall in your life?

CHAPTER 6 ANGER MUST FALL

- 1 The Bible says that anger can be a good thing, as with the Scripture examples on page 113. But it's not always. List the three ways Pastor Louie says anger can pop up as a giant in your life. Which one is most similar to how you experience anger?
- 2 What is the first step you need to take to start feeling better when you're angry about something? Then, what can you do next to change your feelings? How long does Pastor Louie say it will take for this change to happen?
- **3** How was David's anger different from his brother's? What was so bad about Eliab's response to David? Have you ever responded to someone in a similar way? If yes, why would a different response have been better for both you and the other person?

CHAPTER 7 ADDICTION MUST FALL

1 What, according to Pastor Louie, is an "addiction" (page 132)? Based on this definition, what addictions—no matter how small—do you struggle with? Why?