

## Facing the Giants

*Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time He may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on Him, because He cares for you. Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. To Him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen. 1 Peter 5:5-11 ESV*

We all face giants in our lives. People struggle with relationships, financial worries, health issues and much, much more. None of us, no matter how rich or famous, can escape the challenges of life. At the beginning of the movie Coach Grant Taylor was facing personal giants that threatened to overwhelm him.

What are some of the giants that you are facing today?

Grant felt defeated and alone. He felt like a failure both in his marriage and in his job. When he let go of his control of the situation and gave it all to God his life changed.

God tells us to give Him all of our anxieties and worries because He cares for us. What worries do you need to give to God? Ask Him to help you let go of your fears and trust in Him.

Coach Taylor tried hard to teach his team how to work together in order to win but it wasn't enough. He yelled at them that they need to play together as a team but it didn't motivate them to do better. When he changed his tactics and taught them how live life God's way their lives were changed. They also played better football. He said to his players, "Life's not about us. We're here to love God and love others."

What are your goals? Are they all about you? What are you living for? Do your goals need adjusting?

When David missed his first kick, his dad asked him, "Did you do your best?" David replied, "I knew I was going to miss before I even kicked it." His dad said, "Your actions will always follow your beliefs. If you accept defeat, David, then that's what you'll get." Have there been times in your life when you've accepted defeat because you are afraid of failure? Do you "know you are going to miss before you even kick the ball?" If you do it is time to let God adjust your attitude. Trust Him that nothing is impossible with Him.

Mr. Bridges came to the school after hours to pray for the students. When the coach was discouraged Mr. Bridges quoted verses from Revelation 3 where God says, "Behold I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept My word and not denied My name." Even when we haven't kept God's word or if we have denied His name, He will welcome us back if we ask Him. Make a prayer list and date it; then record how God answered your prayers.

God doesn't promise us that all of our problems will disappear the minute that we trust in Him, but He does promise that He will be with us in all of our struggles and He will lift us up. When Coach Mark Richt talked with Grant before the State championship, he congratulated him for winning the big one, for accepting Christ as his Savior. Coach Richt also said, "In the Bible God said, 'Do not fear' 365 times." God wants to take away our fear of failure and fill us with confidence and hope. Trust in Him with all of your heart.

*Dear Lord, we come to You with many concerns in our lives. Even when things don't seem to work out the way we want, help us to keep on trying. Give us courage so that we can do our very best for You and for each other. You have put an open door in front of us. With You nothing is impossible. Show us how to live our lives without fear. In Jesus' name, Amen.*