



# I'M IN MY BAG

S E R M O N   G U I D E

## I'm In My Bag

*1 Samuel 17:32-50*

## INTRODUCTION

## NOTES

There's a major debate going on right now among fans of the NBA, and the question they are asking is, "Which player has the best bag?" By "bag," they are not referring to a designer pouch or athletic bag, but a player's unique combination of skills, dribbling, footwork, and shot creation that allows them to advance the ball and score. Some say Kyrie Irving has the best bag, others say Steph Curry, James Harden, Luka Dončić, or LeBron James. The debate may never be solved because no two players are alike, and because of that, every player has their own bag. It dawned on me in preparation for this sermon that what is true of the NBA is also true about life. Each one of us has been graced by God with a unique set of skills, abilities, and strengths that enable us to move through the trials, troubles, and tribulations of life. If we want to be victorious, we must go into our bag and tap into the resources and capabilities God has given us. And don't worry if what God has given you is not the same as what God has given someone else. It's your bag. It's your unique strength. That's exactly what the story of David shows us in our key text.

## KEY POINTS

## 1. Get In Your Bag Despite Life's Disadvantages

Before we celebrate David's triumph, we must interrogate the depth of his struggle. David was overlooked by his father when Samuel came to anoint the next king. He was insulted by his brother Eliab, who accused him of having an evil heart. He was dismissed by Saul as unqualified and inexperienced. And when Goliath finally saw him, he mocked and ridiculed him. David shouldn't have even been on the battlefield in the first place, yet life placed him in a fight he did not choose.

David shows us that we don't have to despair when life deals us a bad hand. You can still win with a bad hand. He didn't waste his energy complaining about fairness. He didn't wait for the scales of life to balance before he acted. He simply showed up with what he had in his bag, and what he had in his bag was more than enough when placed in God's hands. Faith gives us the fuel to face life when life seems unfair.

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## **2. Be Confident That You Are Prepared for Your Giant**

What's striking about this story is that David does not appear afraid. He is confident, not because of arrogance, but because of sacred assurance. David knew that the stones in his bag came from years of preparation in the field. He had already faced lions and bears while tending his father's sheep, and the same God who delivered him then would deliver him now.

David's confidence was rooted in history, not hype. His public victory came from private preparation. Long before Goliath, David was being developed in the field where no one was watching. God often prepares us long before the giant appears. When Goliath came roaring across the valley, David was not intimidated because he knew he had already been prepared. What's in your bag is proof that you've been trained for this fight.

### 3. Walk In Authenticity

When Saul tried to put his armor on David, David tried to wear it but realized it wasn't for him. "I cannot walk with these, for I am not used to them." That's when David went into his bag and chose five smooth stones. When he stopped wearing what others put on him, he became confident in who God made him to be.

David didn't fight like Saul, his brothers, or the army. He fought like David. He heard the sound of the genuine within himself and refused to let the pressure of the battlefield rob him of his identity. What he needed to win wasn't in somebody else's arsenal. It was in his own bag. And most importantly, David knew the battle didn't belong to him. It belonged to the Lord. That's why he could stop worrying and start trusting.

## NOTES

## No Limits with Pastor Delman

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## QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. What disadvantages or unfair circumstances in your life make it difficult for you to trust what God has already placed in your “bag”?
2. Looking back, what field experiences has God used to prepare you for the giant you’re currently facing?
3. In what ways might you be wearing someone else’s armor instead of walking authentically in who God created you to be?