



SESSION #1

IGNORING THE NAYSAYERS

Adult Midweek Bible Study - **Buhler Mennonite Church** - 4 September 2024

*If the axe is dull and its edge unsharpened,
more strength is needed, but skill will bring success.*

ECCLESIASTES 10:10 (NIV)

Dealing with Naysayers: A naysayer (Webster's) is a person who says something won't work or isn't possible; a cynic who habitually expresses pessimistic views.

A. Four Naysayers David Faced Before Goliath:

1. _____ held him back.

Now David was the son of a man named Jesse ... and he had eight sons. David was the youngest son. David's three oldest brothers stayed with Saul's army, but David went back and forth so he could help his father with the sheep in Bethlehem.

1 SAMUEL 17:12, 14-15 (NLT)

----- **BARRIERS TO SUCCESS** -----

2. _____ was afraid.

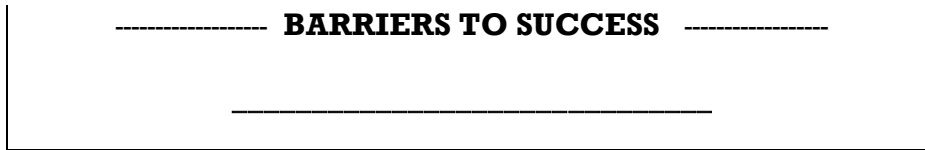
----- **BARRIERS TO SUCCESS** -----

Goliath stood and shouted a taunt across to the Israelites. "Why are you all coming out to fight?" he called. "I am the Philistine champion, but you are only the servants of Saul. Choose one man to come down here and fight me! If he kills me, then we will be your slaves. But if I kill him, you will be our slaves! I defy the armies of Israel today! Send me a man who will fight me!"

When King Saul and the Israelites heard this, they were terrified and deeply shaken.

1 SAMUEL 17:8-11 (NLT)

3. _____ questioned his motives.

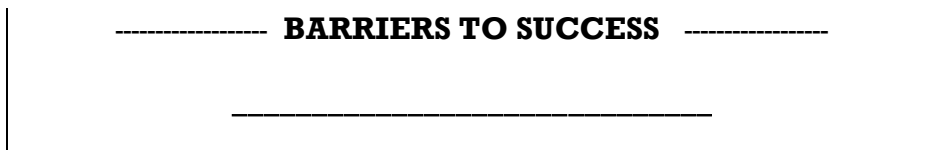


David talked to some others standing there to verify the report. "What will a man get for killing this Philistine and ending his insults to Israel? ... But when David's oldest brother Eliab, heard David talking like that, he was angry. "What are you doing around here, anyway?" he demanded. "What about the sheep you're supposed to be taking care of? I know what a cocky brat you are; you just want to see battle!"

"What have I done now?" David replied, "I was only asking a question!"

1 SAMUEL 17:26-29 (TLB)

4. _____ doubted his ability.



"Don't worry about a thing," David told him. "I'll take care of this Philistine!"
"Don't be ridiculous!" Saul replied. "How can a kid like you fight with a man like him? You are only a boy,
and he has been in the army since he was a boy."

1 SAMUEL 17:32-33 (TLB)

B. How to Defeat the Naysayers In Your Life:

1. Remember they are _____ ! (Prov. 29:25)

What other people think of you is non or your business (Isa. 8:13)

2. Don't get _____ ! (Matt. 10:26)

3. Never _____ ! (Prov 11:12)

I am most like Jesus when I stay silent under attack (1 Pete. 2:23)

4. Stay focused on _____ and _____ !

(1 Sam 30:6 & Ps. 118:6)

You don't need anybody else's approval to be happy (Ps. 119:11, 41-42)

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS

1. Has there been someone who has acted as a naysayer in your life? How did you deal with the situation? How would you deal with it now?

2. Of the *Four Barriers to Success* (delay, discouragement, disapproval, & doubt), which one have you encountered most recently? How would God want you to respond to that barrier?

3. Pastor Warren taught that we are most like Jesus when we stay silent under attack. Share an example of a time you chose to stay silent under attack. How did God bless your decision?

PRAYER DIRECTION

Spend time silently praying for the naysayers in your life. Ask God to give you compassion for them and to help you understand why they may be a naysayer in your life.

Ask God to help discern if someone is a naysayer, or if that person is actually offering you Biblical advice.

Ask God to give you opportunities this week to trust what he says about you more than you trust what the naysayers say about you.