



DEMAND

Week Two | Director > Critics | 05.23-24.2020

Grow Deep Conversation Questions: Use these questions to help you process the message in your personal time of study or with your group. Time suggestions are based on a 90 minute group gathering.

Message Recap: The tension has been rising for the Israelite army as they were taunted by the Philistine giant, but David recognized God the director was more powerful than all of the critics that tried to hold him back, including his brother, his king, and the giant enemy.

» Opening

(2-3 minutes)

- Introductions - this is especially important if this is your first meeting and if there are new members
- Housekeeping - clarify expectations
 - **Announcements:** These are in your Community News email. **Please read and communicate! Encourage participation!**
 - Remind your group that this is a confidential meeting
 - **Remember there may be many thoughts and views. Please remain kind and respectful during conversations.**
- Pray - open your time together in prayer

» Introduction

(12 minutes)

- Ice-Breaker: What show or movie do you love that critics do not?
- Digging Deeper: Explain why you do or do not value the opinions of the critics.

» Observation | Read 1 Samuel 17:24-51

(15 minutes)

- What are your initial reactions to this passage? What do you find challenging? Are you encouraged by any of these verses? Why?

» Key Principle | Critics Limit, the Director Dreams.

(15 minutes)

- Who are some of the critics in your life? What are some words that have been spoken to you that might be holding you back from God's best for your life today?
- In what ways are you allowing God to be the director in your life? Is this easy or difficult for you?

» Critics Box Us In | Reference 1 Samuel 17:24-33

(15 minutes)

- What word would you use to describe yourself when you were ten? Is that still the word you would use to describe yourself now? What do you think causes us to "grow" out of the word that described us at ten?
- Who might describe you as a critic in their life? How can you be attentive and aware of the ways you are speaking to others?
- What was David's response to the critics around him? How do you think he was able to avoid being defined and held back by his critics?

» God Readied You Yesterday For Tomorrow | Reference 1 Samuel 17:34-37

(15 minutes)

- What were the ways David understood God had prepared him for this moment with Goliath?
- How do you remember how God has been faithful and prepared you for something? Take some time to remember.
- How has God been getting you ready for the season you're in today?

» Next Steps and Prayer |

(15 minutes)

- Read 1 Samuel 17:41-51. What do you notice about David in these verses? How do you think he was able to block out the voices of the critics even while they were watching him fight? What can you learn from David at this moment?
- Close by praying for each other to follow God rather than being boxed in by the critics around them, even in this uncertain time.