

Slaying the Giant of Failure: Discovering Your God-Given Destiny

(STUDY GUIDE)

With Dr. Sandie Freed

I. The Giants of Failure and Fear of Failure in Your Promised Land

A. Failure does not have to be fatal.

1. Israel's failure to defeat the giants was fatal.
2. Their hearts were hardened to the promises of God.

B. Don't allow your failure to dictate your future.

1. Believe what God says concerning your future.
2. He is a God that gives hope for a victorious future:

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."
(Jeremiah 29:11–12, NIV)

C. Failure and disappointments steal our vision.

1. Jeremiah had a fear of failure and disappointments:

"5 Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you. Before you were born, I set you apart. I appointed you as a prophet to the nations. 6 'Ah, Sovereign LORD,' I said, 'I do not know how to speak; I am only a child.'

"7 But the LORD said to me, 'Do not say, 'I am only a child.' You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. 8 Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,' declares the LORD.

"9 Then the LORD reached out His hand and touched my mouth and said to me, 'Now I have put My words in your mouth. 10 See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant.'

“11 The Word of the LORD came to me, ‘What do you see, Jeremiah?’ ‘I see the branch of an almond tree,’ I replied. 12 The LORD said to me, ‘You have seen correctly, for I am watching to see that My Word is fulfilled.’”
(Jeremiah 1:5–12, NIV)

2. The Great I AM is with you and will rescue you!
 - a. God promises to “deliver you” from disappointments and fears of failure.
 - b. Deliver is a Hebrew word (OT #5337) meaning “without fail,” “to recover.”
3. God is touching you and putting His words in your mouth. See your new season!
 - a. The word “touch” (OT Hebrew #5060) is a root word meaning “to lay hands upon us” (impartation).
 - b. It also means **to punish, defeat, destroy (the enemy), to strike with a violent emotion.**

II. Failure

A. Failure defined:

1. The lack of success:
 - a. An economic “policy” that is doomed to failure.
 - b. Other words linked to failure are abortion, miscarriage, and loss of power.
2. A mindset of failure:
 - a. The renewing of the mind.
 - b. You are “pregnant” with your future!

B. Always remember that none of your failures are fatal.

1. Thomas Edison had a series of failures.

2. James Dyson and the bagless vacuum cleaner.

“There is only one thing that makes a dream impossible to achieve: The fear of failure.” – Paulo Coelho

“Failure should be our teacher, not our undertaker. Failure is delay, not defeat. It is a temporary detour, not a dead end. Failure is something we can avoid only by saying nothing, doing nothing, and being nothing.” – Denis Waitley

- C. The Bible is full of characters who failed but were still used of God. Many of these prove that failure is not fatal and they went on to do exploits. Just to name a few examples right now:

1. Noah
2. Sarah and Abraham
3. Jacob
4. Tamar
5. Moses
6. Aaron
7. Rahab
8. David
9. Solomon
10. Elijah
11. Peter
12. Paul

- D. **Principle:** Failure doesn't disqualify you, even if you've been following Jesus for some time. Your story is still being written!

1. The only way that failure can get the last word in our life is if we choose to let it.
2. We serve a God who is able to take our defeats and missteps and still use us to bring glory to His name.

III. The Ground Rules for Slaying Your Giant

- A. **Ground rule #1:** Show up for the battle.

1. 1 Samuel 17:17–19 gives us an idea as to why David actually encountered Goliath.
2. His father sent him with roasted grain and 10 loaves of bread to his brothers who were at the Valley of Elah with Saul fighting against the Philistines.
3. We have to CHOOSE to press past our past to defeat a giant.
4. Our victory over every giant lies in showing up every day of our lives.
5. Many of our biblical heroes were not doing anything spectacular whenever God called them:
 - a. Peter was fishing when God called him.
 - b. Gideon was threshing wheat in the winepress.
 - c. David was running an errand for his father.
6. “Sonship” and showing up.
 - a. Learn to fail forward.
 - b. You have God’s DNA — there is no permanent failure as a son.

B. Ground rule #2: Step Up to the Battle

1. It’s all about proper alignment.
2. Stay in the “batter’s box.”
3. Our better covenant.
4. Sin consciousness vs. faith righteousness.
5. Spiritual warfare and “strongholds of the mind.”

*“4 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. 5 We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive **every thought** to make it obedient to Christ. 6 And we will be ready to punish every act of disobedience, once your obedience is complete.” (2 Corinthians 10:4–6, NIV)*

6. A stronghold in Greek means, “a place from which to rule.” It refers to a fortress. (This can be negative or a positive type of fortress.)
7. Pull down every evil thought and replace it with what God says concerning you and Himself.

C. Ground rule #3: Power up to the battle.

“For the Kingdom of God is not in word, but in power.” (1 Corinthians 4:20, KJV)

1. The Kingdom of God is advancing!

“18 And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My Church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.” (Matthew 16:18, NIV)

2. We are never on the defense—the Church is on the offense, always.

3. God has given us power to slay the giants that oppose our advancement:

“Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.” (Luke 10:19, KJV)

“And He appointed twelve to continue to be with Him, and that He might send them out to preach [as apostles or special messengers] and to have authority and power to heal the sick and to drive out demons.” (Mark 3:14–15, AMP)

*“And as you go, preach, saying, ‘**The Kingdom of heaven is at hand!**’ Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, drive our demons. Freely (without pay) you have received, freely (without charge) give.” (Matthew 10:7–8, AMP)*

4. **We have power over every giant.**

5. Your giant will attempt to falsely accuse you and God. Read what Goliath said to Israel:

*“8 **Goliath stood and shouted** to the ranks of Israel, ‘Why do you come out and line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not the servants of Saul? Choose a man and have him come down to me. 9 If he is able to fight and kill me, we will become your subjects; but if I overcome him and kill him, you will become our subjects and serve us.’ 10 Then the Philistine said, ‘**This day I defy the ranks of Israel!** Give me a man and let us fight each other.’ 11 On hearing the Philistine’s words, **Saul and all the Israelites were dismayed and terrified.**” (1 Samuel 17:8–11, NIV)*

- a. Defy: To “defame, derail, blaspheme.”
- b. We cannot be cursed because the shout of the King is within you!

- c. David had to “show up” so that he could “step up” so that he could “power up” and give a “shout out” to his giant. (We must do the same!)

D. David’s “power up” and “shout out” (the power of words!):

“He looked David over and saw that he was only a boy, ruddy and handsome, and he despised him. 43 He said to David, ‘Am I a dog, that you come at me with sticks?’ And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. 44 ‘Come here,’ he said, ‘and I’ll give your flesh to the birds of the air and the beasts of the field!’

“45 David said to the Philistine, ‘You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. 46 This day the Lord will hand you over to me, and I’ll strike you down and cut off your head. Today I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds of the air and the beasts of the earth, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. 47 All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the Lord saves; for the battle is the Lord’s, and He will give all of you into our hands.’

(1 Samuel 17:42–47, NIV)

1. His power was in God, but God gave him power through his decree.
2. All power is available for you today to slay the giant of failure, but it begins with showing up and then submitting to renewing our minds.
3. Our God is faithful. The Great I AM is on your side!

E. The foundational power tool: David was a man after God’s own heart.

“After removing Saul, He made David their king. He testified concerning him, ‘I have found David, son of Jesse, a man after My own heart; He will do everything I want him to do.’” (Acts 13:22)

F. The following words describe the heart of David, as seen in his own writings:

1. **Humble** – (Psalm 62:9)
2. **Honoring** – (Psalm 18:3)
3. **Respectful** – (Psalm 31:9)
4. **Trusting** – knowing God is his stronghold (Psalm 27:1)
5. **Loving** – *“I love you, O LORD, my strength.”* (Psalm 18:1)
6. **Devoted** – (Psalm 4:7)

7. **Praising** – *“I will praise You, O LORD, with all my heart; I will tell of all Your wonders.”* (Psalm 9:1)
8. **Faithful to God** – *“Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.”* (Psalm 23:6)
9. **Obedient** – *“Give me understanding, and I will keep Your law and obey it with all my heart.”* (Psalm 119:34)
10. **Repentant** – *“For the sake of Your name, O LORD, forgive my iniquity, though it is great.”* (Psalm 25:11)

(Excerpts taken from Pastor Ron Edmondson’s blog, *Biblestudytools.com*)

**My prayer for you is to have a heart like David, a man after God’s heart!
This will empower you to slay EVERY giant that stands in the way of your
destiny!**