

# Facing the Giants

DEAN HAWK

1 Samuel 17:11 On hearing the Philistine's words, Saul and all the Israelites were dismayed and terrified.

## ❖ THE GIANT CALLED “ \_\_\_\_\_ ”

“Who's on your team?”

- \_\_\_\_\_% Won't like you and never will.
- \_\_\_\_\_% Won't like you but could be persuaded to.
- \_\_\_\_\_% Will like you but could be persuaded not to like you.
- \_\_\_\_\_% Will like you and will stand by you no matter what.

1. The giant of insecurity will always stand between you and the \_\_\_\_\_ God has given to you!
2. 1 Samuel 17:48 As the Philistine moved closer to attack him, David \_\_\_\_\_ quickly toward the battle line to meet him.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ leaders are willing to take \_\_\_\_\_ risks in order to see a \_\_\_\_\_ harvest.
4. It's not about the size of your \_\_\_\_\_ it's the size of the God you put your faith into.

### CHALLENGE:

1. If you knew there was zero chance of failure what would you go and do?
2. What ministry would you start?
3. What changes would you make?

## ❖ THE GIANT CALLED “ \_\_\_\_\_ ”

### Hours and Pay

- **90%** of the pastors report working between **55 to 75** hours per week.
- **50%** feel unable to meet the **demands** of the job.
- **70%** of pastors feel grossly underpaid.

### Training and Preparedness

- **90%** feel they are inadequately trained to cope with the ministry demands.
- **90%** of pastors said the **ministry was completely different** than what they thought it would be like before they entered the ministry.

### Health and Well-Being

- **70%** of pastors constantly fight depression.
- **50%** of pastors feel so **discouraged** that they would leave the ministry if they could, but have no other way of making a living.



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## Marriage and Family

- **80%** believe pastoral ministry has **negatively** affected their families.
- **80%** of spouses feel the pastor is overworked.
- **80%** spouses feel left out and **under-appreciated** by church members.

## Church Relationships

- **70%** do not have someone they consider a close friend.
- **40%** report serious conflict with a parishioner at least **once a month**.
- **#1 reason pastors leave the ministry** — Church people are not willing to go the same direction and goal of the pastor. Pastors believe God wants them to go in one direction but the people are not willing to follow or change.

## Longevity

- **50%** of the ministers starting out will not last **5 years**.
- **1** out of every **10** ministers will actually retire as a minister in some form.
- **4,000** new churches begin each year and **7,000** churches close.
- Over **1,700** pastors left the ministry **every month** last year.
- Over **1,300** pastors were terminated by the local church **each month**, many without cause.
- Over **3,500** people **a day** left the church last year.

## STRATEGIC CHARGING 1 Timothy 1:6 “I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God”

1. Be leery of the “\_\_\_\_\_ syndrome.”
2. Honor your \_\_\_\_\_ day.
3. Find an \_\_\_\_\_ to refresh your soul.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ (if possible) the tasks that drain you. Excel in the things that come easy for you.
5. Get \_\_\_\_\_ for a day or overnight stay.
6. Utilize your \_\_\_\_\_ time wisely.
7. Take a \_\_\_\_\_ annually.
8. Have a standing \_\_\_\_\_ with your spouse on a weekly basis.
9. GREAT BOOK: Leading on Empty by Wayne Cordero  
2 Timothy 4:7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.



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## CHALLENGE:

1. When is the last time you went on a date with your spouse?
2. What fun thing do you enjoy that you haven't done in a long time?
3. When, where and what will you do on your next vacation?

## ❖ THE GIANT CALLED “ \_\_\_\_\_ ”

Judges 7:22 When the three hundred trumpets sounded, the Lord caused the men throughout the camp to turn on each other with their swords.

1. Our team attitude should be to \_\_\_\_\_ the best, \_\_\_\_\_ the best, \_\_\_\_\_ the best and accept nothing less.
2. Matthew 12:25 “Every kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and every city or household divided against itself will not stand.”
3. We need to always remember who the \_\_\_\_\_ is and attack him, not one another.

## ❖ TRIPLET GIANTS CALLED “ \_\_\_\_\_ , COMFORT, & \_\_\_\_\_ ”

1. It becomes all too easy to slip into \_\_\_\_\_.
2. We stop building and \_\_\_\_\_. “We've always done it this way.”
3. **1 Timothy 4:15** Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress. NIV

## CHALLENGE:

1. If you were the new senior pastor on the scene at your existing church what would you kill, add, or alter immediately?
2. What programs, services, meetings, or events have become stale and lifeless?
3. If you knew you had one year from today and Christ would return – how would it change the way you did ministry and approached your city?

## ❖ THE GIANT CALLED “ \_\_\_\_\_ ”

1. The goal of the trader: To convince us to settle for \_\_\_\_\_ than God's best.
2. The goal of the trader: \_\_\_\_\_ us.
3. Sin destroys our \_\_\_\_\_ and boldness to pursue the vision.



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**John 15:1-8** "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. 7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. 8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. NIV

**Proverbs 4:23** Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

**Luke 8:11-15** "This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God. **12** Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. **13** Those on the rocky ground are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away. **14** The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature. **15** But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

4. The healthier the soil the greater the \_\_\_\_\_ of fruit.
5. The more precise the \_\_\_\_\_ of our life to His the greater He can flow through us.
6. Great pastors and great leaders are not \_\_\_\_\_, they have simply taken the extra steps necessary to exceed \_\_\_\_\_!

## CHALLENGE:

1. What are the last 3-6% of changes you need to make?
2. How would you pray and prepare if Pastor Joel Osteen ask you to speak to his 45,000 people in three services this weekend?
3. Do you live the lifestyle of a leader of 10s, 100s, or 1000s?