



How to Face a Giant

Adapted from “Giant” series by Rod Loy.

Oklahoma quarterback Baker Mayfield has apologized for his behavior over the weekend that resulted in him being arrested and charged with public intoxication, disorderly conduct, resisting arrest and fleeing while partying in Fayetteville, Ark., early Saturday morning.

“With a heavy heart and many more emotions than just one ... I sincerely apologize for my actions,” the 21-year-old wrote in a lengthy essay posted to Twitter on Tuesday evening. “I made the biggest mistake of my life by putting myself in this situation.”

Mayfield’s arrest occurred around 2:30 a.m. local time after police encountered him “yelling profanities and causing a scene,” according to a police report obtained by Fayetteville’s 5 News. The quarterback, who came in third in last season’s Heisman voting, later apparently walked away from police and then ran as an officer chased him down and eventually tackled him. On the ground, Mayfield resisted, police said, noting that Mayfield refused to put his arms behind his back and had to be forced into handcuffs, according to the Associated Press. Mayfield was later booked into the Washington County Detention Center, where he spent three hours before being released on \$1,535 bond, according to the sheriff’s office.

He is expected to be back in court on April 7. The University of Oklahoma has not commented on the arrest. “I know that I represent the University of Oklahoma on a very large scale, therefore I know better than to bring bad attention and scrutiny to the school and people that I love,” Mayfield wrote on Tuesday. “The shame, guilt, and embarrassment I have felt over the past few days and continue to feel is something I would never wish upon anybody.”¹

¹ Marissa Payne, “‘I made the biggest mistake of my life.’ Oklahoma’s Baker Mayfield apologizes after arrest,” *The Washington Post*, March 1, 2017, https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/early-lead/wp/2017/02/25/oklahoma-qb-baker-mayfield-faces-four-charges-including-resisting-arrest/?utm_term=.27b39428eadf (accessed July 7, 2017).

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Men make mistakes. It is part of life. Mistakes range from very extreme to minimal. Nonetheless, how to properly handle our mistakes is something we need to learn as men. The Bible gives us a great example on how to face a giant in our life.

COURAGE

C1: Have you ever said something you wish you could take back? What was it? How did you feel after you said it?

C2: Have you ever heard someone deliver a speech that left you in amazement? What were your thoughts?

C3: David delivers a 4-sentence speech in front of the two armies and sets the stage for one of the greatest upset victories of all time. Read and answer the following.

1 Samuel 17:45–47 (ESV) Then David said to the Philistine, “You come to me with a sword and with a spear and with a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This day the LORD will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you down and cut off your head. And I will give the dead bodies of the host of the Philistines this day to the birds of the air and to the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel, and that all this assembly may know that the LORD saves not with sword and spear. For the battle is the LORD’s, and he will give you into our hand.

- Take some time and write out this prayer personalizing it towards the giant you are facing.

- Memorize these verses.

STRENGTH

S1: Goliath had some impressive weapons. David had something better. Read and answer the following.

1 Samuel 17:45 (ESV)

- From this verse, what does David teach about facing a giant?
- Why do you think it is necessary when facing a giant to acknowledge what you need?

S2: David served the same God as all the other Israelite soldiers. But, David had a different perspective of his God. Read and answer the following.

1 Samuel 17:45 (ESV)

- From this verse, what does David teach us about facing a giant?
- Write your honest response about your perspective of God.

S3: Fighting giants in our life means we must reframe our thoughts about the giant we face. Read and answer the following.

1 Samuel 17:45 (ESV)

- From this verse, what is an important principle David teaches about facing a giant?
- Why is it important to recognize the spiritual aspect of our battle with a giant?

ENDURANCE

E1: Goliath makes some powerful threats. Read and answer the following.

1 Samuel 17:46 (ESV)

- From this verse, what is an important principle when fighting a giant?

E2: God gives us power to defeat our giant to elevate God, not us. Read and answer the following.

1 Samuel 17:46 (ESV)

- From this verse, what is an important principle you can learn when fighting a giant?
- Why is it important that God is glorified when we fight giants?

E3: Intimidation is a major challenge when we fight our giant. Read and answer the following.

1 Samuel 17:47 (ESV)

- From this verse, what is an important principle you learn when we fight a giant?
- Why is it important that we lead our family when we face a giant?