

## **Victory**

### **Ready:**

*“When you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam trees, act decisively, for then the Lord will have marched out ahead of you. ...”* – 2 Samuel 5:24

### **Set**

As competitors, we constantly work on our skills, tactics, and game plans to ultimately be victorious. By focusing on the little things—whether it's our knowledge of the game, the other team, fundamental skills, or the boldness of a new tactic—we position ourselves to pursue victory. However, we often rely on our own ability and forget to invite God into the competition.

Similar to how athletes and coaches prepare for a big game, King David prepared for a major battle against the Philistines, opponents of the Lord. In 2 Samuel 5:17–25, King David defeated the Philistines not once but twice! Yet it was his dependence on the Lord that enabled him to pursue victory. David was close in *proximity* to God and invited Him into battle. He strategically *positioned* himself to see and experience the Lord's presence. Finally, he acted decisively and *pushed* forward into victory.

We have opportunities during our training to depend on the Lord to ultimately pursue victory and His will. Are we in close *proximity* to God on a day-to-day basis, inviting him into our sport? Do we strategically *position* ourselves to see and feel God's movement in our game? Finally, when we see God's presence in our lives, do we boldly *push* forward into victory? Let's tap into the presence, power, and purpose available to us in Jesus Christ!

### **Go**

1. How do you prepare for competition?
2. In what ways can you position yourself to experience God's presence in your sport and life?
3. How can your preparation for competition increase your dependence on God?

### **Workout**

Philippians 2:12–13

Psalms 21:1

### **Overtime**

*Lord, help me to draw close to You and feel Your presence. I pray for a deeper dependence on You in all that I do. Position me to experience Your presence in my life and help me to boldly pursue victory in Your name. Amen.*

### **Bible Reference:**

Philippians 2:12-13

Psalms 21:1



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