

Baseball Team Devotion- Web Gems

Scripture Lesson: 1Samuel 17(whole chapter) especially verses 41-51

ESPN has coined a phrase that means great glove work or defensive plays. These plays are now known around the baseball world as “web gems”. The original term came up in a production meeting for the popular ESPN baseball show, Baseball tonight. Then producer Judson Burch came up with the term used to describe a great defensive play. You can even hear the term watching your local Little League team play when a player makes a great defensive play. One has to flash the leather to get a web gem. It takes confidence in one’s ability and courage to try to make the play. Instincts take over often times and we are able to see the great plays being made. When is the last time you flashed the leather? Have you ever made a web gem?

In our Scripture lesson today, I believe we have the first instance of a web gem in recorded history. For the shepherd boy David flashed some serious leather in defeating the Giant Goliath. But we are ahead of the story. David had brought food to his older brothers fighting against the Philistines. The Philistines had a champion who day after day not only belittled the Israelite army, he belittled God. David heard this giant and went to Saul and said I’ll take him on! David with only a leather slingshot and a few river stones went to meet the giant Goliath in battle. Not only that, he engaged in a little trash talk (vs 45-47). David’s aim is true and he kills the Goliath by flashing the leather slingshot, thus getting the first recorded web gem. David’s confidence was in the Lord. He believed God would win the battle and he had the courage and the faith to step out when no one else would and defeat Goliath. I think Paul said it best in Philippians 4:13, “I can do all things through Him who gives me strength.” If we will place our faith and confidence in God, who knows what kind of heavenly web gem we can accomplish for Him. God is just waiting for us to believe in Him and follow Him. He wants to accomplish great things for His Kingdom through us. How about it are we ready to flash the leather of faith and get a heavenly web gem?

Visual aid: Great you tube video on top 10 High School web gems

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QH2n0SPX9FA><http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QH2n0SPX9FA><http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QH2n0SPX9FA>