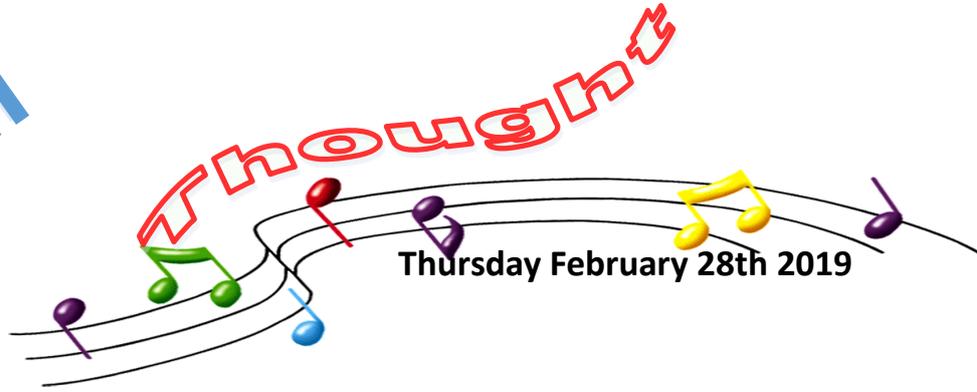


Thankful Thursday



Thursday February 28th 2019

DAVID & GOLIATH 1 SAMUEL 17

Here we have the famous battle of the Israelites and the Philistines. Goliath the champion of the Philistines is a giant of a man described as over 3 m tall. He had goaded the Israelites for 40 days and his words caused them to be greatly dismayed and afraid (verse 11). David, a young shepherd boy, is sent with a packed lunch to his 3 eldest brothers on the battle line. He must have been a strong lad as the food he takes is 18 litres of cooked grain, 10 loaves and 10 cheeses!!!(verses 18-19). David rises to the occasion, refuses the uncomfortable armour offered to him and with a declaration of his faith in the name of God goes out onto the battlefield. Using his skill with a sling shot and a smooth pebble, the mighty giant falls.

I was drawn to verses`34-36 where David recounts to Saul his success at killing beasts that threatened his sheep and how God had helped him in those battles and would be with him in this one. God had prepared and equipped him.

I can see in my own life how God has prepared me for things that lay ahead. There have been battles against dismay and fears, moments that needed courage and skill and various giants/bullies that needed to be tackled. God has never left me alone or ill equipped . Whenever I have needed him he has been there or sent someone with supplies to support me on the front the line.

Jesus didn't use conventional weapons and power but he showed how faith, prayer and trust in God can overcome everything this earth can throw at us to cause dismay and fear. His perfect, sacrificial love conquers all . David declared he was fighting in the name of the God of Israel. We are fighting in the name of Jesus Christ - a powerful name. He is your armour everyday and he gives us the weapons and skills we need and he never sends us into battle alone—he is with us always.

Love & Prayers Claire xx

PS If you need a reminder carry a smooth pebble in your pocket.

