

RECAP...Scene 3: My God is all I need, and he wins the victory

- Let's look at the story, remember 2 people against a whole garrison, but as Jonathan said, Nothing can hinder the Lord from saving whether by many or by few (v6)
- In other words God can do things in the most terrible situations. He is powerful. We just need to look to him.
- V15- Yes God has stepped in. Can we have some panic please?
- V16-17 Saul has woken up to what's happening. And he's discovered it's Jonathan's doing.
- What's he going to do next.
- V18-19
 - Oh dear the Israelites brought the ark into battle once before, it looked very holy, like they were depending on God for help, but they were treating him like a lucky charm.
 - Well he changes his mind, and asks them stop bringing the ark. "withdraw your hand".
 - Saul doesn't seem to know what he's doing.
- V20-23

So Mungo trusts Jesus and everything suddenly sorted, all battles be over?

No Jonathan had to keep fighting, and his troubles just beginning, and he didn't have a happy end, but God was faithful. He was on the winning side.

And God is going to win, he's going to fight his battles. He does that again and again in the OT, and when J died on the cross he didn't need our help. The amazing thing is that he includes us.

V6. PERHAPS. Important word, means we don't decide, we look to God. **A passion for life.** June 2026. God can use us (unlike Jonathan not take life but to give life). "Perhaps". Wouldn't it be a shame to miss out, like Saul. **Let's pray.** Lord help us to step out faith. Knowing you all need.

CCH AAS 1 Samuel 13:16-14:23 "My God is all I need"

Pray. Bibles open 1 Sam 14:6 p283. "Nothing can hinder"

Good morning all, we've just sung a song called "MY GOD IS ALL I NEED", and actually that's a great title for the story we're going to look at today, because in it we see how God is all Jonathan needs.

But before we look at the story, I'd like to introduce you to Mungo the Moose.

- How is he looking?
- He's facing a few battles.
 - At **school** doesn't have any friends
 - At **home** feels like he keeps having meltdowns (and doesn't feel like he can stop)
 - In his **snowboarding** club (inspired by olympics), doing badly- more meltdowns
 - And at **church**. He's good as gold. Right answers.
- Maybe Mungo needs to learn what this chapter teaches us. Maybe we all do. "My God is all I need".

It's quite a long story, so we are going to act it out. I've got some actors, but I'm going to need some help. I need loads of kids to be **PHILISTINES**, and I need loads of kids to be **HEBREWS**.

SET UP STAGE. Ph on left, Heb/Israelites on right. Main Characters.

Scene 1: My God is all I need, but things look terrible.

- V16 introduce characters: SAUL, JONATHAN= ?. ABEAR. PHIL. (Saul got things horribly wrong ch13, disobeyed). How feeling?
- V17-18 raiding parties x3. How Israelites/Heb feeling?
- V19-22. Blacksmiths. Monopoly. Own all the blacksmiths. How feeling now?

It's a really bad situation. Maybe you can relate to this. Bit similar to Mungo. Life is really bad for you now.

- Not enemy bearing down on you but in a battle.
 - At school battle to do the right thing.
 - Adults: Facing temptation at the moment- really hard.
 - Perhaps the battle is to put your trust in Jesus 1st time.
 - Perhaps battle is to be known as a Christian.
- You sing “My God is all I need”, put on a brave face at church on Sunday, but the battle hard on Sat night/Mon morning. SCENE 2.
- Do you think this is a good time or a bad time to trust God?
- Do you think this is a good time or bad time to act for God?
- Do you think this is a good time/bad time to look to God?
- My God is all I need, but things look terrible.
 - Wow every time Jonathan speaks he starts with “come” it’s full of energy/ initiative/ faith.
 - Wonderful verse.
 - You see he realises his God is so Big. Strong Mighty.
- And they make a little plan. V8-10.
 - They are going to show themselves to the enemy.
 - Wow this looks like foolishness.
 - Let’s see what happens.
- V12b-14
 - Doesn’t get put off by what they say!
 - Wow carnage.

Scene 2: My God is all I need, so let’s look to Him

- V23-3 Gen good idea not to keep stuff from parents, but Saul has been doing nothing so far. Look at Jonathan’s faith.
- (Just need to remind us, we’re not in favour of beating ppl up in the playground! Reason we **cheer** is enemy of God’s people).
- v2-3, look at Saul in contrast! Pomegranate. And **family tree** there leads us back to sad episode earlier in the book- priesthood who would be cut off. Martha with her **ephod**.
- V4-5 meanwhile.
 - Found picture online of this valley.
 - Really steep ravine
 - Bozez=**Slippery**
 - Seneh= **Thorny**. Nice!
- Anyone know who this is? Alex Honnold.
- Hasn’t put off Jonathan.
- He’s the first free solo climber! No ropes those days.
- What’s next?
- V6. **V6 is the key verse!** Look at his faith.
- V7 His armour bearer’s brave, maybe more- carrying!
- V8

Did you see Jonathan’s faith?

He doesn’t just sing the songs in church, he lives like they are true.

My God is so big so strong and so mighty.

Maybe Mungo needs to learn to look to God for strength. Maybe we do too. Look there’s he’s praying.

When you meet someone with big faith, it’s not that they are big, it’s that they have a big God.

▲ Brother Andrew. Used to smuggle Bibles into countries that banned the Bible. He said “Lord, in the Bible You made blind eyes see. Now, I pray You make seeing eyes blind.” He is big. Nothing too big for his power.

An ordinary Dutch man in factory. But fearless. *“The Bible is full of ordinary people who went to impossible places and did wondrous things simply because they decided to obey God.”*

It’s **God who’s big**. Let’s pause and sing about that now.

SING: Nothing’s too big big big for his power.

Recap.