

LESSON 57

# David & Goliath

1 SAMUEL 17:1-54



**BIBLE TRUTH**

**SALVATION BELONGS TO THE LORD**

LESSON SNAPSHOT

**1. OPENING ACTIVITY AND INTRODUCTION . . . . . 5 MIN**

**SUPPLIES:** Fist-size rock; penny

**2. BIBLE STORY . . . . . 10 MIN**

**SUPPLIES:** *The Gospel Story Bible* (story 57)

**3. BIBLE STORY DISCUSSION . . . . . 5 MIN**

**Where Is Jesus?**

**SUPPLIES:** Bible (ESV preferred); Review “Where Is Jesus?” to prepare

**4. SNACK QUESTIONS . . . . . 10 MIN**

**SUPPLIES:** Snack food/water

**5. SWORD BIBLE MEMORY . . . . . 5–10 MIN**

**6. ACTIVITIES AND OBJECT LESSONS (CHOOSE ONE OR MORE) 20–30 MIN**

**Coloring Page 57**

**SUPPLIES:** markers/crayons

**Sling Time**

**SUPPLIES:** several slings prepared from heavy fabric and strings; mini-marshmallows; target

**Make It a Play**

**SUPPLIES:** costume for Goliath (a dark, long-haired wig, robe, sword, and shield)

**7. CLOSING PRAYER . . . . . 5 MIN**

**TOTAL 60–75 MIN**

THE LESSON

**OPENING ACTIVITY AND INTRODUCTION . . . . . 5 MIN**

In today’s lesson we will see the hand of God behind all of our successes.

Bring to class a fist-size rock and a penny. Place the rock on a flat surface and place the penny about two feet away.

Ask the class: “will the rock move if you firmly roll the penny toward it?” (The rock of course will not move.) Demonstrate this by rolling the penny toward the rock.

Now instead of rolling the penny, hold it between your index finger and thumb and push the penny with your fingers all the way until it touches the rock. Ask the class: “if I continue will the rock move?” (Once they give you their answer, continue pushing the rock with the penny held in your fingers.)

Ask the class why the rock moved this time and not the first time when the same penny was used. (Help them to see that your hand was the reason that the rock moved, and your hand gave the strength to the penny to move the rock.)

Tell the class that God, like the hand on the penny, works in our lives to accomplish his plans. Tell them that in today’s class they are going to learn how God’s hand of power was upon the life of David to advance God’s plan of salvation.

Pray for the remainder of the class time before moving forward with the lesson.

**BIBLE STORY . . . . . 10 MIN**

Read story 57, “David and Goliath,” from *The Gospel Story Bible*.

**BIBLE STORY DISCUSSION . . . . . 5 MIN**

After reading the story, use the following questions to involve the children in a discussion:

What happened in this story?

*(The Philistines sent Goliath to make fun of Israel and their God and challenge any of the soldiers to battle. David conquered Goliath with a sling.)*

Who helped David win?

*(God helped David win. It was God who allowed the stone to strike Goliath in the head.)*

What did the Philistines do when they saw that Goliath was dead?

*(They ran away in fear.)*

**SNACK QUESTIONS . . . . . 10 MIN**

While the children are eating the snack, engage them by asking:

What is a sling?

*(A sling is a patch of leather with two long leather cords tied to it. You place a rock in the leather and swing it by the cords. When you let go of the cords, the rock is thrown much harder than you can throw it with your hand.)*

Why did God have David use a sling to fight Goliath?

*(If David had used a spear or sword, some might have thought it was the weapon that did the work in the hands of a skillful warrior, but everyone would know it was only by the Lord's power if Goliath were defeated by a young boy using a little stone.)*

What other amazing things had David done?

*(When he was a shepherd, David killed a lion and a bear.)*

**SWORD BIBLE MEMORY . . . . . 5-10 MIN**

Take time during the class to review the SWORD Bible Memory verses with the class. Provide the opportunity for each child to recite the verses to an adult worker.

**ACTIVITIES AND OBJECT LESSONS. . . . . 20-30 MIN**

**Coloring Activity**

**SUPPLIES:**

coloring page 57—one copy for each child

While the children are coloring, engage them by asking the following questions:

## Where Is Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_

Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.

Passage: 1 Samuel 17:47

Who are you most like in this story: Goliath, Saul and the men of Israel, or David? We all would like to think we are like David, but when trials come to us we can struggle to trust God like the men of Israel did.

The truth is that we are more like the men of Israel than we realize. We all have a giant in our lives—sin. We can't conquer that giant by ourselves. Like Israel, we need a Savior who will fight and conquer our giant for us. David was the man God sent to save Israel from the enemy, Goliath; and Jesus is the man God sent to save us from our enemy, sin.

David offered to take up Goliath's challenge to come forward and represent Israel. If he won, Israel would win; if he lost, all of Israel would become servants of the Philistines. Like David, Jesus stood in our place. Now everyone who trusts in him shares in his victory over sin.

### How tall was Goliath?

*(Goliath was over nine feet tall—his head would have touched the bottom of a basketball net when he walked under it.)*

### Who did Goliath trust in?

*(Goliath trusted in his size and his own strength. He did not trust in the Lord.)*

### How can this story help us to trust in the Lord?

*(If we remember that God helped young David do a great thing with just a few stones, it will encourage us that God can help us to do things that seem impossible.)*

## Sling Time

### SUPPLIES:

several slings prepared as follows: cut pieces of heavy cloth into 2-in. x 3-in. rectangles; using a pair of scissors, cut two holes in the ends of the rectangle in the middle of the 2-in. sides; tie a string to each hole to form the sling  
mini-marshmallows  
target (homemade is fine)

Instructions prior to class: Make the slings with the materials above. Practice using the sling at home so you can demonstrate it to the class.

Set up a target at one end of the room and have the children try to hit the target. To operate the sling, they need to place a marshmallow in the center of the cloth patch then swing the sling in a large circle. When they let go of one of the strings, the marshmallow should fly out. This will not be easy for some of them to learn. This will help them to see how difficult it would have been for David to kill Goliath. The children will learn that it was only by God's help that David killed Goliath.

## Make It a Play

### SUPPLIES:

Goliath costume (a dark, long-haired wig, robe, large sword, and shield)

This is a great story for the children to act out. There are enough characters to get everyone involved.

Divide the class into Philistines and Israelites. If you can, for drama have an adult volunteer to dress up for the part of Goliath.

Have the "Philistines," taunt the "Israelites." Have Goliath hide outside the room and at your signal enter with a loud roar. This should startle the children.

Later, ask them how they felt when Goliath first appeared. Have them relate to the Israelites' fear. Discuss their thoughts regarding the story.

**PRAY** ..... **5 MIN**

Take time at the end of class to thank God for all you learned today. Include parts of your Bible lesson in your prayer as another way for the children to remember what today's lesson was about.

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