

LESSON 57

David & Goliath

1 SAMUEL 16:14 – 17:58



BIBLE TRUTH

SALVATION BELONGS TO THE LORD

LESSON SNAPSHOT

- 1. OPENING REVIEW 5 MIN**
Use last week’s lesson outline to review with the children what they learned.
- 2. BIBLE STORY 10 MIN**
Read 1 Samuel 17 from the Scriptures or read story 57, “David and Goliath,” from *The Gospel Story Bible*.
- 3. OBJECT LESSON 1 15 MIN**
David and Goliath Trivia
SUPPLIES:
 - ✓ trivia questions and answers (see below)
 - ✓ a prize for the winning team
- 4. TEACHING/DISCUSSION 10 MIN**
- 5. OBJECT LESSON 2 15 MIN**
Jesus and David, Continued
SUPPLIES:
 - ✓ whiteboard and dry-erase marker
- 6. SWORD BIBLE MEMORY 5 MIN**
- 7. ACTIVITY TIME 15 MIN**
The Battle Is the Lord’s
SUPPLIES:
 - ✓ colored pencils, crayons, and paper
- 8. CLOSING PRAYER 5 MIN**
- 9. BONUS OBJECT LESSON 10 MIN**
Slay the Giant
SUPPLIES:
 - ✓ sling consisting of two shoelaces, one-by-two-inch scrap of denim (to make a sling, punch two holes in the center of the short side of the patch and tie a shoelace through each hole)
 - ✓ plastic practice golf balls (tightly wadded up paper will also work)
 - ✓ stepladder
 - ✓ plastic cup

TOTAL 90 MIN

PREPARING TO TEACH

TEACHING POINTS

God transfers authority from Saul to David—Here we see God beginning to transfer authority from Saul to David. God removes his Spirit from Saul, brings David into the king's palace, and begins to give him favor. It is interesting that Saul was comforted by David's music for even today psalms that David wrote bring great comfort to God's people.

God's Spirit is the real source of courage—Now that God's Spirit has been removed from Saul, he is terrified and helpless against Goliath. But David is bold as the Spirit of God fills him with courage and faith. David is angry when he sees Goliath defying the armies of Israel.

David confronts and kills Goliath—To David, Goliath is not threatening the army of Saul, the human king; he is threatening the army of God, the divine King. David knows that it is God who rules over Israel regardless of who might be on a human throne, and he knows that salvation comes only from God. This is why David knows that Goliath can be defeated, and this is why David will become a greater king than Saul.

A LITTLE BIT MORE

Goliath

Goliath was a champion of the Philistines. He was a large man recorded as six cubits and a span—nine feet nine inches. He was huge and strong. His chain mail armor weighed 125 pounds and his spear head weighed 15 pounds. His armor was too heavy for a normal man.

WHERE IS JESUS? _____

How does today's Bible story fit into God's greater plan of redemption?

Read 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.

THE LESSON

OPENING REVIEW 5 MIN

Use last week's lesson outline to review with the children what they learned.

BIBLE STORY 10 MIN

Read 1 Samuel 17 from the Scriptures or read story 57, "David and Goliath," from *The Gospel Story Bible*.

OBJECT LESSON 1 15 MIN

David and Goliath Trivia

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ trivia questions and answers (see below)
- ✓ a prize for the winning team

▲ UPPER ELEMENTARY LESSON 57

Read the story to the class, and then divide the class into two teams. Have them take turns answering the following questions. The team with the most points in the end is the winner. Only one person is allowed to answer a question, and each person is only allowed to answer one question. Each team must select a person to answer the question before it is read. If the question is answered incorrectly, the opposing team may pick someone to answer it. If the question is answered correctly on the first try, it is worth five points. Each subsequent try by the opposing team is worth one point less.

No.	Trivia question	Answer
1	What city was Goliath from?	Gath
2	What was Goliath's helmet made of?	Bronze
3	What city was David from?	Bethlehem
4	What three items did David carry to the troops?	An ephah of parched grain, ten loaves, and ten cheeses
5	What items did David take to confront Goliath?	Five smooth stones, a shepherd's pouch, his sling, and his staff
6	What two animals did David defeat to protect his sheep?	Lion and bear
7	Whose sword did David use to cut off Goliath's head?	Goliath's own
8	What did Saul promise to the man who could defeat Goliath?	Marriage to his daughter, great riches, and freedom for his family
9	What did Goliath say to David when David approached him for battle?	"Am I a dog that you come to me with sticks?"
10	Who went with Goliath to confront the Israelites?	His shield bearer
11	How many of Jesse's sons followed Saul into battle?	Three
12	Which one of David's brothers got angry at him for coming to the battle?	Eliab, his eldest brother
13	Who did David say the battle belonged to?	The Lord

TEACHING/DISCUSSION 10 MIN

Using the teaching points, teach through the lesson for today.

OBJECT LESSON 2 15 MIN

Jesus and David, Continued

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ whiteboard and dry-erase marker

Ask the class to find similarities between Jesus and David. Write them on the board. Use the scripture references below to give them hints.

- Both came from Bethlehem (1 Samuel 17:12; Matthew 2:1).
- Both were filled with the Holy Spirit (1 Samuel 16:3; Matthew 3:16).
- Both saved their people from their enemies (2 Samuel 3:18; Matthew 1:21).
- Both fought without sword or spear by the power of God (1 Samuel 17:45; Matthew 26:53–56).
- Both were shepherds (1 Samuel 16:11; John 10:11 [Jesus is called the great shepherd in his ministry.]).
- Both were descendants of Jesse (Acts 13:22–23).
- Both were kings (1 Samuel 16:13 [David had been anointed at this time but had not yet been crowned.]; Revelation 17:14).
- Both fought battles not for their own glory but for the glory of God.

WORD BIBLE MEMORY 5 MIN

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

ACTIVITY TIME 15 MIN

The Battle Is the Lord's

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ colored pencils, crayons, and paper

Have the children draw David with his sling and five stones and write somewhere on their picture, "The battle is the Lord's."

CLOSING PRAYER 5 MIN

Pick several children to pray prayers based on the day's scripture passages.

BONUS OBJECT LESSON 10 MIN

Slay the Giant

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ sling consisting of two shoelaces, one-by-two-inch scrap of denim (to make a sling, punch two holes in the center of the short side of the patch and tie a shoelace through each hole)
- ✓ plastic practice golf balls (tightly wadded up paper will also work)
- ✓ stepladder
- ✓ plastic cup

Set up the stepladder on one side of your room with the plastic cup sitting in the center of the top step. Tell the class that the stepladder is Goliath and the plastic cup the center of his head. Invite the children to attempt to hit the plastic cup using the sling to launch the balls. (Be careful to clear the other children away from the target zone during this exercise.)

To use a sling, place a ball in the denim rectangle and hold both strings. Swing the sling and let go of only one of the strings when the ball is swinging toward the target. If your children don't have any success using the sling, allow them to toss the balls at the target.

After they see how hard it is to use the sling, ask the class how they think David could have been so "lucky" as to hit Goliath. The answer of course is that David was not lucky at all. Read 1 Samuel 17:37, 46-47 and ask the children who guided the rock from David's sling? (God guided the rock. God gave David the skill to use the sling, and God ensured that when the rock hit Goliath he was knocked down to the ground.)