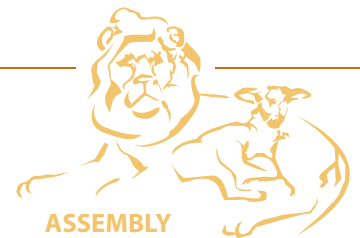


## DAVID AND GOLIATH

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: 1 SAMUEL 17:1-54



*Though the 54 verses in this story might seem like a lot, this is a story the children will enjoy hearing from start to finish. Read it from the NIV Bible. Feel free to add dramatization and side comments to help the story come alive for the children. The following are some ideas for creative ways that you can present this material.*

## LESSON IDEAS

### SLING TIME

**Supplies:**

- make a few slings (cut pieces of heavy cloth into a 2" x 3" rectangle, using a pair of scissors, cut two holes in the ends of the rectangle in the middle of the 2" side, tie a shoelace to each hole to form the sling)
- purchase the small ½" marshmallows to be your rocks
- make or bring a target

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:**

put together a costume for Goliath (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.

Have the children, who are acting as the Philistines, taunt the Israelites. Make one of the teachers Goliath. If you can, for drama, have one of the larger male teachers volunteer to dress up for the part.

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. Ask them other questions to draw out their thoughts regarding the story.

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### 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.*

The key to seeing Jesus in this passage is found in 1 Samuel 17:47:

The Lord saves not with sword and spear. For the battle is the Lord's and he will give you into our hand. (1 Samuel 17:47)

The Lord saves by His Spirit. King Saul did not understand that David could triumph over Goliath by God's power. Goliath trusted in his own power and mocked David. David understood that his battle would be won, not by might, but by the Spirit of the Lord.

The battle for our salvation was won on the cross by God's power in Jesus. Though the crowds tried to force Him to become king, Jesus knew the battle was a spiritual battle that would only be won on the cross.

In 1 Corinthians 15:50-56 we read of the victory that Jesus won for us. David won a victory over the Philistines, saving the Israelite soldiers from death. Jesus won the final victory over death giving us the opportunity to live forever with Him in heaven.

