

DAVID AND GOLIATH

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: 1 SAMUEL 17:1-54



The STORY

Read "David–The Shepherd-warrior" and "David–The Giant-killer" from 365 Read-Aloud Bedtime Bible Stories (pages 108-109).

***Please note:** The discussion questions in the following sections are written to serve as a guide in teaching our youngest children. Three to six year olds are not going to be able to answer these questions like their older brothers and sisters. Please refer to the God's Story Preschool Curriculum Outline for additional ideas.*

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 conquers Goliath with a sling.)
- Who helped David win? (God helped David win. It was God that allowed the stone to strike Goliath in the head and kill him.)
- What did the Philistines do when they saw that Goliath was dead? (They ran away in fear.)

CRAFT QUESTIONS

Coloring sheets have been provided that exemplify today's lesson: David and Goliath face to face before battle. Engage the children by asking:

- How tall was Goliath? (Goliath was over nine feet tall. That means 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 great things even though we might not think it is possible.)

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SNACK QUESTIONS

While the children are eating the snack engage the children 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 patch 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 didn't God have David kill Goliath with a sword or spear? (God wanted everyone to know that He is God. If David 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 it was just 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.)



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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.

SWORD BIBLE MEMORY

BE A DOER OF THE WORD

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.

