



DAVID AND GOLIATH

Nursery • June 2023

Concept

God is bigger and stronger than anyone or anything.

Goal

Children will learn that David believed that God is bigger and stronger than anyone or anything. God used David to kill the giant, Goliath.

Passage

1 Samuel 17:1-49

Key Verse: "...God will be with me." 1 Samuel 17:37 (paraphrased)

Planning Ahead

Lesson Supplies

Lesson:

- *The Bible in Pictures for Toddlers, Lindvall, pp. 64-65*
- *The Rhyme Bible Storybook for Toddlers, Sattgast, pp. 98-103*
- *The Beginner's Bible for Toddlers, Zonderkidz, pp. 50-55*
- *Individual laminated, magnet-backed pictures of:*
 - *David*
 - *Goliath*

*TEACHERS PLEASE NOTE

For clarity, the italicized areas in the Planning Ahead section indicate supplies that are in—and should be returned to—your classroom SHARED SUPPLY bag.

Background Information/Teacher Helps

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The Philistines and Israelites positioned for battle well within the borders of the Promised Land, less than 20 miles southwest of Jerusalem. The Israelites quake at the giant champion chosen by the Philistines. They have lost sight of their God as they have placed the king between themselves and their true ruler, God. Saul was responsible for Israel as her king. He was a huge man (1 Sam. 10:23) and should have faced the giant. However, he viewed the giant through worldly eyes and did the “smart” thing—hid in camp!

When David arrived in camp, he heard the defiance of the Philistine giant and assessed the situation. Seeing that no one else was rising to the occasion, David volunteered to fight Goliath. First, he faced opposition within the Israelite camp. His own brother turned on him, angry at David for even inquiring into the challenge. The king offered help that was not really help, i.e.; armor that would hinder David’s movement and a weapon that he’d never tried. David kept his eyes on God. He did not rise at Eliab’s anger and he refused Saul’s help. He knew that God was able to use him just as he was. We do not know if his thoughts turned to the promise of God through Samuel that he should someday be king, or to God’s promise to his people that they should possess the land, or to his love of God’s character. David had many reasons to proclaim, “You come to me with a sword, a spear, and a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have taunted. This day the Lord will deliver you up into my hands, and I will strike you down... that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel” (1 Sam 17:45-46, NASB).

When we stand against God’s enemies many will try to interfere, even within our own “band.” Some will resent the implication that they aren’t doing enough when we enter into the work. Others will offer their solutions that in the end might steal from the glory being attributed to God. David was committed to God’s honor, to battling God’s enemy in a way that would “let all the earth know that there is a God.” David’s relationship with God gave him the confidence he needed to go forward. This week, as you prepare to go forward with God’s message for the children in your class, thank Him that He has given you “five smooth stones”—just what you need to do His work. Ask that He would be glorified as the children seek a relationship with Him for themselves. Ask that you might encourage them to do battle by sharing Him with others.

Prayer

Pray for the children

- With your team before class.
- During the week.

Pray simple short prayers for the children.

Lesson Lg. Group

Instructions: Give children the laminated figures to put up as you talk about them. Use the story bibles to tell the story.

Main Points:

- David believed God is bigger and stronger than anyone or anything.
- David believed God was strong enough to help him kill the giant
- David was brave because God was on his side and he knew that is bigger and stronger than anyone or anything.
- David threw one stone and God sent it with such power that the giant was killed.