

Lesson 3

David Defeats Goliath

Bible Lesson: 1 Samuel 17

Memory Verse: "Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit," says the Lord of hosts. *Zechariah 4:6*

Books of the Bible Review: BOOKS OF LAW
Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy

TEACHER PREPARATION

Prepare to Teach

- ◆ that God is faithful to His children
- ◆ that God gives us victory over our enemy
- ◆ that God wants us to honor His name

- ◆ index cards, 1 per child
- ◆ 36-48" lengths of yarn, 1 per child
- ◆ white construction paper or drawing paper with the memory verse written across the top, 1 sheet per child
- ◆ paper chain for Books of Law
- ◆ yardstick or tape measure

Prepare Materials

- ◆ hearts used for last week's memory verse
- ◆ a picture of your parents or guardians

BIBLE BACKGROUND

A. Introduction

Most of the world is "large" to those in your class. Often these little ones face big people, big decisions, big concerns, and big fears. How comforting this story will be if they see that like young David, God will help them.

B. Prayer Preparation

1. Praise God that He recognizes little ones and waits to help them.
2. Ask that the Holy Spirit would impress upon the children this lesson that teaches about God's power over sin.
3. Pray for God's protection over each child.

C. Bible Study

Saul was successful in his campaigns against the Amalekites, but the Philistines proved difficult for him. His son Jonathan showed greater courage than his father against the Philistines and was successful in defeating them. But then the Philistines came up with their monster Goliath, a man nine

feet nine inches tall who intimidated not only the Israelites but also their leader Saul. *"When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid"* (I Samuel 17:11).

But there was one man in Israel who was not afraid: David. He claimed the promise of faith: *"The Lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear. He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine"* (I Samuel 17:37). Unafraid, he cried out to Goliath, *"The battle is the Lord's and He will give you into our hands"* (I Samuel 17:47). Goliath was a representative of Satan, the one who strutted in his power. His self-inflated ego, rudeness, and crudeness defied godliness. The Israelites huddled across the way: the church of the Lord God, the congregation of the righteous, who put their trust in God.

Often times the Church seems so small, so helpless against the forces of Satan. As Paul writes in Ephesians 6:12, *"For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers...against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places."* Also, *"The god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God"* (II Corinthians 4:4).

And then to the defense of the Church comes Jesus the Anointed One. He takes up the battle on our behalf. David was scorned by his brothers, but much more Christ was *"...despised and forsaken of men, a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and like one from whom men hide their face, He was despised, and we did not esteem Him"* (Isaiah 53:3).

How has Christ defeated Satan? He did that at Calvary when Christ shed His own blood. Calvary defeated Satan and ransomed all those who put their trust in Christ.

Like David we rely upon the name of the Lord, upon the Word of God, upon Jesus our Savior who alone is the victor. The catechism teaches that to believe in Jesus is to *"surrender myself to Him as my only Savior from sin, and death, and the power of Satan"* (Luther's Small Catechism Explained, Minneapolis, Minnesota: Association of Free Lutheran Congregations, 1995).

David's victory over Goliath is a picture of the triumph of the Son of David (Christ) over Satan and all the powers of darkness through Christ's death on the cross, *"...that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil; and might deliver those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives"* (Hebrews 2:14-15). *"But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ"* (I Corinthians 15:57).

D. What Is God Like?

1. God shows His power by choosing the low and humble to uphold the greatness of His cause. *"But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong"* (I Corinthians 1:27).
2. God's presence remains with those who are humble of heart and who trust in Him. *"I dwell on a high and holy place, and also with the contrite and lowly of spirit in order to revive the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite"* (Isaiah 57:15).
3. God is the One, the only One, who can bring victory to His people. *"In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world"* (John 16:33).

BEGINNING YOUR CLASS HOUR

Welcome with Love

As you **TAKE** attendance, have the students share one way that God has been faithful to them. They may need some suggestions to get them started. For example, God has been faithful to me in providing food to eat and clothes to wear. God has been faithful to me by giving me parents who love me and take care of me. God has been faithful to me by keeping me healthy and strong.

When completed, take time to **PRAY** and thank God for His faithfulness. Thank Him for sending Jesus to be our Savior. Thank Him for being faithful to forgive our sins when we ask Him to.

Prayerfully sing together the first verse of *"Heavenly Father, Here We Gather"* printed in student books and Teacher Manual.

Use a Learning Center

MUSIC CENTER – A BOY NAMED DAVID

Many of the children may be familiar with the story about David and Goliath. Ask the children to tell you what they know about this story. Briefly explain the story to any children who may not have heard about David and the giant. Then remind the children that God was faithful to David. David knew that he could depend on God to help him when he faced Goliath.

SING *"Only a Boy Named David"* p.24 Salvation Songs Favorites or p.56 Songs of God and Me. Give the children plenty of room

to do the actions for the song. This song helps us to remember that God can do great and mighty things through us when we are willing to obey and follow Him.

DISCOVERY CENTER – GIANT GOLIATH

Many of us do not realize how tall Goliath really was and what an impossible task David had before him. The Bible tells us that Goliath was six cubits and a span. That would be over nine feet tall! To illustrate how tall Goliath was, take a yardstick or tape measure and measure nine feet along the floor or the wall. (There may be another place in your church with walls tall enough if your classroom is not.) Put masking tape at each end. Write Goliath's name on the top piece of tape.

SAY: Goliath was a very tall warrior. David was still a young boy and had not grown to his full height. Let's see how tall we are against Goliath. Have the children lay on the floor with their heels on the bottom tape. Then place pieces of tape with their names on at the top of their heads. If you are using a wall, stand up to the wall and measure that way. After you have measured everyone, point out how much taller Goliath was than an average adult or child.

SAY: Even though Goliath was much taller, David was not afraid. David knew the living God would protect him just as God had protected him when he was watching the sheep.

REVIEW LAST WEEK'S MESSAGE

Memory Verse

Using the hearts from last week's lesson, review the memory verse. **SCATTER** the hearts over the table and have the children put them in the correct order. Give the children

clues if necessary. When the children have placed the hearts in order, **READ** the verse together.

Bible Story

SAY: Something very important happened to David in our story last week. **ASK:**

- ◆ Can you remember what important event it was? (God chose David to be king)
- ◆ What was David's outward appearance like? (small, young)
- ◆ Did David seem like the best choice for a king? (he was very young and a shepherd boy, but David had faith in God and loved God)

EXPLAIN: When God chooses someone for a job, He doesn't look at his or her outward appearance. More importantly, God looks at the heart.

Then **ASK:**

- ◆ What do you think David's heart was like? (Even though David was a sinner just like us, David had faith in God and loved God. David trusted in the living God and knew that He had power over all things.)
- ◆ What is your heart like? (Be sensitive in your discussion as some children may like to share about this and others may not. Tell the children that our hearts are sinful, but Jesus came to die for our sins. If we believe in Jesus and ask Him to forgive our sins, He will forgive us and make our hearts clean.)

TEACHING TODAY'S BIBLE LESSON

Sing the Message

Teach "*I'm in His Majesty's Army*" p.73 Salvation Songs Favorites. **EMPHASIZE** that Jesus is the King of kings and has power over all things. As children of the King, we are soldiers in His army. Jesus the King will help us to fight against evil. He will help us to say "no" when we are tempted to sin. We do not need to be afraid because Jesus is with us wherever we go.

Pray the Message

Sing the first verse of the theme hymn "*O That the Lord Would Guide My Ways*" as a prayer today, asking God to guide and keep us. **PRAISE** God that He is stronger than all our enemies. **THANK** God for His faithfulness and constant care for us. **PRAY** that God will help us to obey Him and follow Him each day.

Learn the New Words

Goliath A giant man in the Philistine army who was an enemy of God.

champion One who fights for a cause and is greater than all others.

giant A person of extraordinary size.

mock To make fun of.

armor A covering worn to protect the body against weapons in battle.

Introduce the Message

BRING a picture of your parents to class. **SHOW** the picture to the children, and explain that this is a picture of your parents. Then **SAY:** God has told us that we are to honor our parents.

ASK the following questions:

- ◆ What does it mean to honor our parents? (to speak to them with respect, to talk about them with kind words, to speak well of them even when others may criticize them, to obey them, to even risk your life for them)
- ◆ Do you think it is hard to honor our parents? (sometimes, but God will help us to honor and obey them)

SAY: God also wants us to honor Him. We are to talk with kindness about God and to show Him great respect. In our story today, a young boy named David shows great honor and respect for God through his behavior. An enemy of God mocks God, and David knows it is not right to mock God.

Read/Tell the Message

SAY: Our Bible story today is from the book of I Samuel. Let's open our Bibles to chapter 17 of I Samuel.

Also have the children open their books to Lesson 3. **READ** the title and **SAY:** Let's read and find out how David honors God.

READ the story to the children as they follow along in their books. Use lots of expression, making the story come alive. As you read, emphasize the ways that David honors God.

The figures from the "Stories About David" flannelgraph on David Meets A Giant may be a helpful visual while telling the story.

DAVID DEFEATS GOLIATH

The armies of Israel were at war with the Philistines. King Saul's army stood on one mountain, and the Philistines stood on another mountain, with a valley between them. The Philistines had a champion named Goliath in their army. Goliath was a giant over nine feet tall. Every day Goliath shouted across the valley to the Israelites on the other mountain, "Choose a man to come and fight me. If he wins, we will be your servants, but if I win, you will be our servants."

David, the son of Jesse from Bethlehem, had three older brothers who were in King Saul's army. One day Jesse sent David with food and supplies for his brothers. Jesse also wanted David to bring back news from the brothers.

David obeyed his father. He arose early in the morning and went and found his brothers. While he was talking to them, Goliath the giant again shouted his challenge, "Choose a man to come and fight me." David asked his brothers, "Who is this Philistine that he should mock the armies of the living God?"

When King Saul heard that David had asked why Goliath dared to challenge the armies of Israel, he sent for David. Then David said, "I will go and fight this Philistine." Saul told David he was too young to fight. But David told Saul about the dangerous animals he had killed as he was tending his sheep.

David said, "The Lord who delivered me from the lion and the bear will deliver me from this Philistine."

Saul agreed to let David fight the giant Goliath. Saul put a bronze helmet on David's head and clothed him with armor. But David was not used to wearing armor, so he took it off. Then he took his stick and chose five smooth stones from the brook to put into his shepherd's bag. He carried his sling in his hand as he walked toward the giant.

Goliath said, "Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?" Then Goliath cursed David and said, "Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the sky and the beasts of the field." David answered, "You come to me with a sword and a spear, but today I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel." Then David ran quickly to meet Goliath. David took a stone from his bag and put it in his sling. He slung the stone, and it struck the Philistine on his forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, so that Goliath fell on his face to the ground.

By God's help, David killed the giant Goliath. That day God brought victory to the armies of Israel, and all the Philistines ran away.

Reinforce the Message

ASK the following questions to help review the story:

- ◆ Who were God's enemies in this story? (the Philistines)
- ◆ Who was mocking God? (Goliath the giant)
- ◆ Why did David come to the battle site? (his father sent him to bring food and supplies to his brothers)
- ◆ What did David think when he heard Goliath? (David knew that Goliath was mocking God and that this was not right. David wanted to fight the giant Goliath because he was mocking God.)
- ◆ Did David seem afraid? (no, David had faith in God and knew God would help and deliver him)
- ◆ How did David's actions honor God? (David knew it was not right for someone to mock God and was willing to risk his life to make it known that God is the living and powerful God whom we are to honor)

- ◆ What happened when David faced Goliath? (God gave David victory; David killed Goliath)
- ◆ Do we have any enemies that we face? (yes, Satan tempts us to disobey God by not obeying our parents or by speaking unkindly to them, by lying or cheating, or by saying mean things to other people)

- ◆ Who will help us to obey and honor God? (God who has power over all things)

SING the song "Only a Boy Named David" p.24 Salvation Songs Favorites or p.56 Songs of God and Me to review the story.

APPLYING THE BIBLE LESSON

Memorize the Bible Verse

SING "Thy Word Have I Hid in My Heart."

GIVE a piece of construction paper to each child with the memory verse written across the top. Have all the children READ the verse together. DISCUSS the meaning of the verse by defining these words: *might* (strength), *power* (force), *Spirit* (Holy Spirit).

EXPLAIN: It is not by our own strength or might that we can fight our enemies, but it is through God's Holy Spirit that we will win the battle against our enemies.

ASK: Is this the way it was for David? (yes, David had only a small stone and a sling against a strong and powerful giant, but God's Spirit won the battle through David)

READ the verse again and then have the children DRAW pictures from today's story to illustrate the verse. As they are drawing, read and say the verse together several times. Also give each child a chance to say the verse.

*"Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit," says the Lord of hosts.
Zechariah 4:6*

Study the Books of the Bible

You may want to continue using the books of the Bible chart and singing "The Books of the Bible" song (printed in books from Quarter One) to help with review each week.

Try the following game to help review the first five books of the Bible, the **Books of Law**. Have the children stand in a circle and begin

saying the books of the Bible in order. The first child will say Genesis, the next child will say Exodus, and a different child may continue with each book through Deuteronomy. The child after Deuteronomy will say "Books of Law," and the following child must sit down. Continue in the same manner until there is only one player left standing who is the winner. If a child says a wrong book, he must sit down and the next child must say the correct book.

When the game is complete, invite all the children to stand together and recite the first five books of the Bible.

Begin making a paper chain for the Old Testament books. Make five links, one for each of the Books of Law. Hang these links beneath the Books of Law poster. Say the five Books of Law together.

If time allows, encourage the children to continue saying the books of the Bible through the end of the Old Testament, helping them as necessary.

Do the Activities Together

ACTIVITY 1 – David Faces the Giant

REVIEW the words at the top of the page. Note that most of these words are from the New Words. As each sentence is read, let the children DECIDE which word should be written in the blank. Give the children time to WRITE the correct word.

If necessary, give the children clues to help them choose the right answer. For example, use the definitions from the New Words list to help students think of correct answers such as,

“The word for the first blank is someone who fights for a cause and is greater than all others” (champion).


The correct answers for this activity are:

- 1. champion
- 2. mock
- 3. giant
- 4. armor
- 5. stones
- 6. Goliath
- 7. David

Lesson 3 – Activity 1 David Defeats Goliath

champion David mock giant armor Goliath stones

- The Philistines had a _____ named Goliath in their army.
- David asked his brothers, “Who is this Philistine that he should _____ the armies of the living God?”
- Saul agreed to let David fight the _____ Goliath, who was over nine feet tall.
- Saul clothed David with _____, but David took the armor off.
- David chose five smooth _____ from the brook to put into his shepherd’s bag.
- David took one stone from his shepherd’s bag and put it in his sling. David slung the stone, and it struck the Philistine on his forehead so that _____ fell on his face to the ground.
- By God’s help, _____ killed the giant Goliath.



33

ACTIVITY 2 – Trusting God

EXPLAIN that even though David had not been trained to fight Goliath, he was willing to fight because he knew God would be with him. Saul tried to get David to wear the armor of a soldier. But David was not used to wearing heavy armor, so David took the armor off. David had faith that God would be with him and protect him when he fought the giant.

Have the children **CUT OUT** the shepherd’s bag. **CUT** two small slits where the rope is. Using a long piece of yarn, **STRING** the yarn through the slits and tie a knot. Tape an index card to the back of the shepherd’s bag, leaving the top open to form a pocket.

Lesson 3 – Activity 2

David Defeats Goliath



35

Lesson 3 – Activity 2

David Defeats Goliath

“Not by might

nor by power,

but by My Spirit,”

says the Lord of hosts.

Zechariah 4:6

37

Have the children **CUT** the stones with the Bible verse on them from the activity page. Help each child put the stones in the correct order on the table. After the students have reviewed the verse, put the stones into the pocket of the shepherd’s bag. Help the

children sling the shepherd bag over one of their shoulders, or put the string over their heads and diagonally across the chest with the bag to one side. Say the memory verse together:

*"Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit," says the Lord of hosts.
Zechariah 4:6*

Save a shepherd's bag and stones in the Memory Basket for future review.

CLOSING YOUR CLASS HOUR

Teach and Sing

REVIEW the songs about David you learned today including *"I'm in His Majesty's Army"* and *"Only a Boy Named David."*

Close the singing time with the first verse of the theme hymn, *"O That the Lord Would Guide My Ways."* **ASSURE** the children that God will help us to trust Him and will give us grace and strength to follow and obey Him each day.

Pray Together

Ask several of the children to pray that God would teach us to honor Him and to speak kindly of Him. Also pray for any special needs the children have. Ask God to give us grace and strength to follow and obey Him.

THANK the children for coming to Sunday school to learn more about God and His love for us.

PREPARE FOR NEXT WEEK

Gather and Prepare Materials

- ◆ shepherd's bag and stones from last week's activity page
- ◆ large X made from cardboard
- ◆ piece of paper with a large circle drawn in the center, 1 per child
- ◆ ten-dollar bill
- ◆ sheets of construction paper cut in half, 3 pieces per child
- ◆ index cards
- ◆ construction paper or poster board
- ◆ books of the Bible review game (pattern in Teacher Manual)
- ◆ buttons for game markers
- ◆ paper chain for Books of History

Prepare Lesson 3

Begin your study and preparation with prayer.

Pray for each student daily by name.

Read the Bible text (I Kings 3) and student lesson.

Memorize the Bible verse:

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. Proverbs 9:10

Read the Teacher Manual.

Highlight, underline, and write in your own notes to help you teach Lesson 4.