



David and Goliath



Key Passages

- 1 Samuel 17:10, 17:24, 17:34–35, 17:37, 17:45

Lesson Focus

- God gave David courage.

Lesson Overview



Come On In

Students will color the David Coloring Sheet as a review of the previous lesson and/or play with play dough.



Circle Time

Prayer—Using the Flip Chart Prayer Page, discuss prayer and give each child the opportunity to pray after determining what type of prayer you will offer today.

God's Word—Students will hear how God gave David courage to fight Goliath, the Philistine.

Song—Students will praise God by marching, clapping, and singing the new Memory Verse Song from the Flip Chart.



Activity 1: Pick a Picture Role Play

Students will pick one of the five illustrations from today's lesson and lead the other students in acting out what that character did.



Activity 2: Courage Maze

Students will color the pictures and complete the maze.



Memory Verse Review and Activity

Students will be introduced to the new memory verse from the Flip Chart.



Applying God's Word/Snack

Students will review the lesson while enjoying the snack for the day.

Lesson Preparation

WHAT YOU WILL DO

WHAT YOU WILL NEED



FOR THE TEACHER

- Study the Prepare to Share section.
- Go Before the Throne.

- Student Take Home Sheets



COME ON IN

- Print one David Coloring Sheet from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student.

- David Coloring Sheet for each student
- Crayons
- Play dough



CIRCLE TIME

- Practice the Memory Verse Song on the Song Sheet at the back of this Teacher Guide.
- Print and color one David Coloring Sheet from the Resource DVD-ROM for your use during the lesson.
- Print one each of the five Lesson Illustrations from the Resource DVD-ROM for your use during the lesson and activity.

- Lesson Flip Chart
- Bible
- Stuffed animal for prayer time
- David Coloring Sheet for review
- Five Lesson Illustrations
- Tape measure



PICK A PICTURE ROLE PLAY

- Use the five Lesson Illustrations from the Resource DVD-ROM you printed for the lesson.

- Five Lesson Illustrations



COURAGE MAZE

- Print one Courage Maze from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student.
- Print and cut one set of four Courage Maze pictures from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student.
- Complete one Courage Maze with pictures glued on to show as an example.

- Courage Maze for each student
- One set of four Courage Maze pictures for each student
- Crayons
- Glue sticks or scrapbooking adhesive
- Completed Courage Maze



MEMORY VERSE REVIEW AND ACTIVITY

- No extra preparation required.

- Lesson Flip Chart for memory verse review



APPLYING GOD'S WORD/SNACK

- Prepare and bring snacks.

- Lesson Flip Chart for review
- Snacks



Prepare to share

SCRIPTURAL BACKGROUND

Prepare to teach by preparing your heart. Read the lesson key passages along with this background.

God gave David the gift of faith and used him in a mighty way to accomplish His perfect plans. David had been chosen by God to take the throne of Israel after Saul had failed to lead Israel in a God-honoring way (1 Samuel 15:10–26). Samuel had anointed David in the presence of his father, Jesse, and his older brothers, and David was now the king in waiting (1 Samuel 16:11–13).

From the time of David's anointing, the Spirit of the Lord was with him (1 Samuel 16:13). But the Spirit of the Lord had departed from Saul (1 Samuel 16:14). God had rejected Saul and set His favor on David from whom the promised Messiah would come to reign forever. In His wisdom, God had sent a distressing spirit to harass Saul, and David was brought in to Saul's palace to play for him (1 Samuel 16:23). When David played his harp, the distressing spirit left Saul, and he was refreshed. David became a part of Saul's household and was made his armor-bearer.

Although Saul loved David greatly at the beginning (1 Samuel 16:21), he soon became envious and despised the talented, courageous, godly young man. Saul's jealousy toward David began in the account we are studying today—the account of David's defeat over Goliath, the Philistine from Gath (1 Samuel 17:23).

How is it that the shepherd David, the youngest of the sons of Jesse, would be the one used by God to display trust, courage, and faith? The entire army of Israel was not able to exhibit this degree of valor against its enemy (1 Samuel 17:24). The Israelite soldiers had no courage because their confidence was not in the omnipotent God of Israel. Yet David, unarmed and unprepared for battle, volunteered to go and fight the one who would dare to defy the army of the living God (1 Samuel 17:36).

And on he went—armed with trust in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel (1 Samuel 17:45). David's faith was in his God, not in sword and spear. His purpose was not glory and honor for himself but a desire to display that God's power alone can save (1 Samuel 17:47).

As mentioned earlier, when Samuel anointed David as king, the Spirit of the Lord came upon him. The Spirit gave David the strength, courage, confidence, and trust to continue in the name of the Lord to defend Israel against its enemies. His conquests made in the

name of his sovereign and all-powerful God brought him honor among the people (1 Samuel 18:5–7). This increasing popularity provoked Saul's jealousy and hatred. Saul became consumed with this vendetta and sought to kill David on multiple occasions over many years. David roamed about the region with a band of valiant men and even spared the life of Saul on two occasions, acknowledging that because Saul was the Lord's anointed he must respect him as his authority for the time (1 Samuel 24:6, 26:11).

Throughout history we see God using imperfect people to accomplish His plans. While the entire Israelite army feared one Philistine giant, a God-fearing young man came forward to kill the enemy. From the line of this young man David would come the Messiah (Jesus Christ) to provide forgiveness, mercy, and grace to sinners—and the promise of eternal life.

HISTORICAL/APOLOGETICS BACKGROUND

Even though David was the youngest son of Jesse, he was no pipsqueak. The common depictions of David and Goliath in Sunday school materials, coloring books, animated movies, and even paintings is of a small boy facing a giant man. While this makes for a good "story," this is not what the Bible presents. In 1 Samuel 16:18 we have a description of David:

Then one of the servants answered and said, "Look, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, who is skillful in playing, a mighty man of valor, a man of war, prudent in speech, and a handsome person; and the Lord is with him."

This description paints David as a valiant young man quite capable of fighting, and this was some time before his encounter with Goliath.

Another point often raised is the description of David trying to wear Saul's armor. We know that Saul was a head taller than the normal Israelite (1 Samuel 9:2). Many people assume that David refused to wear Saul's armor into battle because it was much too big for him (1 Samuel 17:38–39). Looking carefully at the text, however, David said that he had not "tested" the armor—he was not comfortable fighting in gear he had not trained in. Also, Saul would not suggest David wear his armor if it was much too big for him. To do so would put David at a disadvantage. We need to purge the little-boy image and have a biblical perspective of the young man, David.

Although David was no flea of a man, he might have appeared so next to Goliath. This warrior from Gath was probably a descendant of the giants who caused the 10 spies to be fearful of entering the Promised Land. Like those spies, the warriors of Israel did not trust God to fight for them, and they stood in fear of a mere man. The details of Goliath are indeed impressive—he stood 9’-9” tall, his coat of mail weighed 125 lbs., and his spearhead weighed 15 lbs. There was not a man among the Israelites in his own strength who could defeat Goliath.

Over the years, many falsified photos have circulated showing giant skeletons being excavated around the world. Unfortunately, some well-meaning Christians have used these to “prove” that someone as tall as Goliath could have lived in the Middle East. We must remember that we can trust God’s Word to record the height of this man accurately, and we should not start with outside sources to demonstrate the Bible’s trustworthiness. If these archaeological finds (were they

even real) could prove the Bible to be true, then we’d no longer be looking to the Bible as the authority. We must always look to Scripture as our ultimate authority.

For more information on this topic, see the Online Resource Page.



BEFORE THE THRONE

Almighty Lord, you thrill me. I will never tire of learning and applying the truths of your Word! Help me to look to you instead of the circumstances the next time I face a giant in my life. Help me to prepare and teach this lesson in a way that it will really impact my students. Bless them with a desire to have a relationship with you like David had. Draw them to you so they will have faith and trust in you as Savior and Lord.

➤ As you teach, refer often to the Lesson Flip Chart Page to keep the children engaged. When reading the lesson Scriptures, stand up, be enthusiastic, look at the children, and emphasize the answers to the questions you will be asking. This will help to keep the children engaged.



COME ON IN

As children arrive . . .

- They will color the David Coloring Sheet as a review of the previous lesson and/or
- Play with play dough.

During this time you should be at the door welcoming the children as they come in and directing them to sit down at the tables and begin the activity. Have an aid/helper ready to engage the children with the activity.



REVIEW

Using the Flip Chart, quickly review the previous lessons with your students. Take 5 to 10 minutes to reinforce the important truths the students have heard so far in your class.

Ask the children questions about the previous lessons as you display the Lesson Flip Chart Pages. Remind the children of each lesson's focus. This will refresh the truths in your students' minds and maintain continuity as you teach through the lessons.



Circle Time

In an orderly manner, have the children assemble in a circle away from the tables—either on the floor or in their chairs.

Bring your stuffed animal, Bible, Flip Chart, David Coloring Sheet, Lesson Illustrations, tape measure, and any other props you brought or prepared for this lesson.

PRAYER

This prayer time is designed to get children to begin to understand some simple concepts about prayer and to get them to understand that they can pray. Use a special stuffed animal—prayer bear—or appropriate object to pass around the circle as each child gets his/her turn to pray. Only the child with the stuffed animal is allowed to pray or speak during this time. Using the same stuffed animal or other object all year will add continuity and structure to this time.

We start our Bible study with prayer. Let's pray. Turn to the Flip Chart Prayer Page. Briefly review the different types of prayer presented there. Then determine which type you want the children to pray today.

- I love you prayers—Adoration
- I'm sorry prayers—Confession
- Thank you prayers—Thanksgiving
- Please prayers—Supplication

Today Adoration is suggested. You might proceed this way:

Today let's say prayers of adoration—and tell God how much we love Him.

The prayers you begin with should be specific to your needs. This will model to the children that you believe God does care about all the details of your life, and you pray to Him about these things. Your example will increase their confidence in praying to God.

I'll start. Dear God, you are great and good. I love you so much because . . .
(insert personal prayer).

➤ Prior to making your transition to Circle Time, we suggest you take time for restroom breaks and hand washing.

➤ Preschoolers need to move. This is a good opportunity to get them to move. Make an orderly transition to the Circle Time. You can have carpet squares if you want to sit on the floor, or help them to move their chairs into the circle.

Pass the stuffed animal around the circle giving all the children an opportunity to say a prayer telling God how much they love Him.

Very good! Now let's put our stuffed animal away, and we'll get into God's Word.

GOD'S WORD

These first five questions will be repeated each week this quarter. The repetition of these questions will help to solidify these simple but foundational truths in the children's minds at a young age.

- ? **Is there more than one true God?** *No. There is only one living and true God.*
- ? **Where can we learn about the one true God?** *Hold up your Bible. The Bible.*
- ? **What does the one true God know?** *The one true God knows everything!*
- ? **Who should we trust and obey?** *The one true God!*
- ? **Who alone should we worship?** *The one true God!*

The following activity should be repeated at the beginning of each lesson to encourage anticipation and enthusiasm for looking into the Word of God. Use a sticky note to mark today's passage before you begin.

► Before Bible Pass Around, place a sticky note in your Bible to mark the first passage to be read.

Bible Pass Around

We are going to start out today by looking into God's Word, the Bible. *Hold up Bible.* God's Word is true, and we can trust what it says. But where should we look? One of you will help me with that. We're going to play Bible Pass Around. Whoever ends up with the Bible must hold it very carefully until it is time to look in it. When it is time to read, you can bring it to me, and we'll open it to see what we are going to talk about! Here's what we're going to do. I want everyone to count with me up to the number *choose a number.* You may also choose to practice the alphabet, recite the books of the Bible, sing one of the lesson songs, or recite the memory verse as you do this activity. **We'll start right here.** Hand the Bible to the first student. **As we say each number (or word) you must carefully pass the Bible to the person beside you—remember, we don't want to drop it or tear it. Then when we get to the last number (or word), whoever has the Bible will hold on to it until we are ready to start our lesson. Are you ready? Let's begin.** *You may want to have the student with the Bible stand next to you until it is time to open it. Continue lesson when finished with Bible Pass Around.*

► When the Bible Pass Around Activity is completed, continue with the lesson.

David was chosen by God to be the next king of Israel! *Show David Coloring Sheet worked on during the Come On In Activity.* David loved God—he was a man after God's own heart! God knows our hearts, and He knew David wanted to follow Him.

Let's open the Bible now! We are going to read from 1 Samuel. *Make this a special time as the student brings the Bible and he/she opens it to where the sticky note is. Show the students where the chapter is. Have the student sit back down.* **David was still young. He was older than you are, but young. Sometimes he worked for King Saul**

and sometimes he went home to take care of his father's sheep. While he was at home, some enemies gathered to fight against Israel. They were called the Philistines.

The Philistines hated the Israelites! They were wicked and mean, and they were going to attack the people of Israel. So King Saul and his army went to fight against them. But the Philistines had a "champion." He was a big man—the strongest and meanest in their army! The Bible says this man's name was Goliath. He was over 9 feet tall! That's taller than your dad! Let's measure this door! It's only (___ft.) tall. If Goliath visited us, he would have to bend over to come through the door! *Using the tape measure, measure the classroom door together.*

Let's see what else the Bible says about him. *Show Lesson Illustration #1.* He wore a bronze helmet on his head and had heavy, metal armor all over him—even on his legs! Goliath carried a big sword, a huge spear, and a heavy throwing spear called a javelin. He was ready to fight! Listen to this. *Read 1 Samuel 17:10.*

Every day Goliath would come out and shout at the Israelites. He dared them to send someone to come out and fight him. But I don't think the men of Israel wanted to fight him. You tell me what you think after I read this. *Read 1 Samuel 17:24 emphasizing "all," "fled," and "afraid."*

- ? What did the men of Israel do? *Fled, ran away.*
- ? Why did they run away? *They were afraid.*
- ? Were they ALL afraid? *Yes!*
- ? Oh, no! Who do you think would save them? *Allow for answers.*

GOD would save them! And this is how! David was a shepherd. He wasn't with the army. But his brothers were! David's father sent him to check on his brothers. When David got there, he heard about Goliath's challenge. He knew Goliath did not love God. And Goliath wanted to fight God's people. David loved God. God gave David courage. David wasn't afraid of Goliath. David knew God would save His people. He went to King Saul and told him that he would fight the Philistine! But King Saul said David was too young. *Show Lesson Illustration #2.* He didn't believe David could win. No one thought David could win against Goliath! But David knew God would help him. Listen to what he said. *Read 1 Samuel 17:34–35 emphasizing "kept sheep," "lion," "bear," and "went after it."*

- ? What did David do when he was a young boy? *1 Samuel 17:34. Kept sheep. Yes! He was a shepherd.*
- ? *Show Lesson Illustration #3—flock of sheep. What animals would try to take his sheep? 1 Samuel 17:34. Lions and bears. Show Lesson Illustration #4—the lion and bear.*

1 Samuel 17:10

1 Samuel 17:24

► Re-read the verses or the portion of the verse(s) that answer the questions you are asking of the text. The children should hear God's Word and know that they can answer questions from it. It is not too hard for them!

1 Samuel 17:34–35

1 Samuel 17:37

- ? **What did David do when lions or bears took his sheep?** *1 Samuel 17:35.*
Protected his sheep and killed the animals.

Have you ever seen a bear or lion at the zoo? They're big aren't they? They have long claws and sharp teeth, too. They can be very dangerous! But David wasn't afraid. He trusted God. God gave David courage and strength to keep his sheep safe. So what do you think he said to King Saul? Listen to this. *Read 1 Samuel 17:37 emphasizing "the Lord."*

- ? **Who would help David fight Goliath?** *The Lord.*

David believed God—he was a man after God's own heart. David knew God would give him courage to fight Goliath! King Saul let David go and fight the Philistine champion.

David walked out toward Goliath. *Show Lesson Illustration #5 and Flip Chart.* David didn't wear armor like Goliath did. He took his sling with him. When he crossed the brook, or creek, he bent down and picked up five smooth stones. Goliath was angry—he dared the Israelites to send someone to fight him and expected them to send a warrior. But God sent David, a young man—not even a soldier in the army! And off David went to fight the angry giant, Goliath. Listen to what David said to him. *Read 1 Samuel 17:45. Refer to the Flip Chart and the Lesson Illustrations.*

1 Samuel 17:45

- ? **What weapons did Goliath have?** *Re-read the verse. Refer to Lesson Illustration #1.*
Sword, spear, and javelin.

Goliath was well-armed for battle!

- ? **But David wasn't afraid. He came with his sling and stones. David knew someone was there to help him. Who was that?** *Re-read 1 Samuel 17:45. God!*

- ? **Who gave David courage?** *God.*

- ? **In whose name did David come to fight Goliath?** *The name of the Lord.*

God was with David. He went to meet Goliath in the name of the Lord! The Lord helped David. The Lord God gave David perfect aim with his sling and the stone. And the Lord's stone hit Goliath right in the head. Goliath died. And all the people knew that Israel's God was the one true God. David trusted God, and he knew that God would win the battle!

SONG

► Turn to the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page during this part of the lesson.

Turn to the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page. David had a heart after God's heart. He loved God and trusted Him. Our new memory verse comes from a prayer that David prayed to God. It tells how wonderful God is. Let's take a look at the verse and then we'll sing the words together. *Repeat and discuss the words together, then teach the Memory Verse Song. Lyrics to the songs can be found on the Song Sheet at the back of this Teacher Guide.*



Pick a Picture Role Play

MATERIALS

- Five Lesson Illustrations

INSTRUCTIONS

Have students line up across from you. Spread out the Lesson Illustrations face down. Choose one student to pick from the five Lesson Illustrations. Have the student try to act out the character on the illustration. Whisper hints if he/she can't decide what to do. Then have all the children act out the character together.

Talk about how God used the character in this true Bible account! If time allows, start over with another child doing the original charade.

Examples of the actions could be: Goliath—putting on his armor, shaking his spear, looking big! Saul—shaking his head telling David he's too young. Lion and bear—growling and clawing. David—picking up stones and using the sling. Flock of sheep—down on all fours and making sheep-like sounds.

We are going to do some acting today! Everyone stand up in a line right here. I'm going to choose someone to come and pick out a picture from our lesson today. I want you to act it out—I'll help you if you need help—and we'll see if we can guess who you are supposed to be!

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

David trusted God. God gave David courage. God prepared David for his fight with Goliath while David was still a shepherd. When a lion or a bear tried to steal David's sheep, God helped him to rescue them. David trusted God, and God gave him the courage he needed to fight against Goliath.



Courage Maze

MATERIALS

- Courage Maze for each student
- Four Courage Maze pictures for each student
- Crayons
- Glue sticks or scrapbooking adhesive

INSTRUCTIONS

Cut out the four Courage Maze pictures before class. Have students color the pictures. Then fold the pictures back at the dotted line and glue the bottom of each picture to the rectangle outlines on the maze sheet so the picture stands up. Using crayons, students will complete the maze by following the path from David to Goliath. Discuss how God prepared David to fight Goliath even when he was a shepherd. David came to the battle in the name of the Lord.

Let's color these pictures. Then we'll put them on our maze, and complete the maze.
Show your completed maze sheet with the pictures colored.

- ? **What do you see in your pictures?** *David, Goliath, bear, and lion.*

That's right! When you are finished coloring I'll help you glue them onto your maze. After you put your pictures on the maze, your job will be to find the right path in the maze with your crayon. The path will start with David, then past the bear, then the lion, and finally end at Goliath!

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

David told Goliath, "I come to you in the name of the Lord!" David wasn't afraid. God gave David the courage he needed. David trusted God and knew that God would save His people. God's stone killed Goliath! We need to remember that if we are a child of God, God will give us the courage and the strength we need no matter what the battle is!



Memory Verse Review and Activity

2 Samuel 7:22 Therefore You are great, O Lord God. For there is none like You, nor is there any God besides You, according to all that we have heard with our ears.

Use the Flip Chart Memory Verse Page. Explain the verse to the children as you go over the verse together. Say the verse and point at each picture several times. Ask the children if anyone wants to try and say it on their own.

MATERIALS

- Flip Chart Memory Verse Page

INSTRUCTIONS

Review the verse with the students. Have students move around the room in a specified action you give, such as: crawling, skipping, turning in circles, galloping, walking in giant steps, etc. When you say, "Freeze!" the students will stop and freeze in position. Recite the memory verse together, then begin again with a different action.

We're going to play a game now called "Freeze!" I'm going to tell you what to do like crawl or take baby steps. But when I say, "Freeze," you have to stop and freeze like a statue. Like this. *Show an example of an action and freezing so the students understand how to freeze in position.* Then we're all going to say our memory verse together before we can move again. Are you ready? Everyone stand up. We'll start with taking giant steps.

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

That was fun! Saying the memory verse over and over again is a great way to remember it. This verse was part of a prayer that David prayed to God. David believed God and loved God. David knew that there was no other god like the one true God. David knew that God would save His people.



Applying God's Word/Snack

WHAT YOU HEARD IN THE WORD

After thanking God for your snack, review the lesson with the children while enjoying the snack for the day.

Refer to the Flip Chart. God chose David to be the next king of Israel. David had a heart for God. He loved God and wanted to obey. David came to the Philistine giant, Goliath, in the name of the Lord! God gave David courage when no one else would fight the Philistine champion, Goliath. God gave David perfect aim, and with one stone, he killed Goliath. We serve a mighty God!

GOD'S WORD IN THE REAL WORLD

God is a mighty God! And if we believe that and believe in Him and Jesus Christ whom He sent, we will have this mighty God on our side always—through everything that happens. With God on our side, we can be brave to obey Him and do what He asks us to do.

► Pass out the Student Take Home Sheets and remind the children to practice the memory verse this week.



Group Prayer Time

- Thank God for His Word and the truth.
- Pray that God will give us hearts that truly love Him.
- Ask God to give us courage to obey Him.

Do you still have more time? Review the past quarters using the Flip Charts, add another coloring sheet, recite and review the current and past memory verses, sing more songs, bring out play dough. Keep the children occupied with intentional, God-centered activities until their parents come to pick them up.

Song Sheet

2 SAMUEL 7:22

(To the tune of "This Old Man")

*Shout: **Therefore!** For added variety, teacher can have children hold out "therefore" as long as they can, then start singing fast.*

You are great! Oh, Lord God!

(This old man, he played one,)

For there is-is none like You.

(He played knick-knack on my thumb.)

Nor-or is there any Go-od besides You.

(With a knick-knack, paddy-whack. Give a dog a bone.)

According to all that we have heard—

(This old man came rolling home.)

*Whisper or Shout: **With . . . our . . . ears. 2 Samuel 7:22!***

Think of fun ways to sing. For example: Get children in a circle holding hands. They can go in one direction and at each verse quickly reverse direction. Put one or more than one child in the middle of the circle. Go around them then move in and back out! Get them into a straight line. Have them follow you around the room.