

*When finished with activities, return all necessary items to bag and place in the hallway for pick-up.*

Program A-2

## David and Goliath

1 Samuel 17:1-58

Samuel & Kings Series: Lesson #8

Bible Verse: The LORD is my strength. Psalm 28:7

Past verses: Help one another. Gal. 5:13

The LORD looks at the heart. 1 Samuel 16:7

Bible Story for children:

Focus on: God is bigger than our enemies. With God's power we can defeat the enemy, no matter how small we are.

Prop ideas: Clothing that is too big for you. (Or have a child dress up in adult clothes).

Slingshot, stones, armor

Weights weighing 125 pounds (Use a dolly to transport from room to room)

### SAMPLE STORY

The shepherd David was still in King Saul's service, but he also tended his father's sheep in Bethlehem. Remember, David was the youngest of 8 sons of Jesse. The 3 oldest sons were serving in King Saul's army. Father Jesse asked David to go to Saul's army and check on his brothers. Jesse sent roasted grain, 10 loaves of bread and 10 cheeses for his sons and their commanders. He wanted David to tell him how his brothers were doing.

The Philistines were enemies of God's people, the Israelites. They gathered their army and were ready for war. The Israelites gathered their army too. There was a champion Philistine soldier named Goliath. He was over 9 feet tall! He was a giant. He wore armor that weighed 125 pounds. Every day for 40 days, he would come out of his tent to yell at and tease the Israelites. Goliath knew that they were all afraid to fight him.

When David found his brothers, he heard Goliath shouting at the Israelites. He wanted to know why no one would go fight this man. Goliath was insulting the LORD God and His people. David said that someone ought to stop him from saying those things and fight him! When King Saul had overheard what David was saying, he sent for him. David told the king that he would go and fight Goliath. King Saul said, "You cannot fight this man. You are only a small boy. He has been a fighting man for many years." David was not afraid. He said, "I have been keeping my father's sheep. When a lion or bear came and carried off a sheep, I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I pulled it by its hair, struck it and killed. I have killed both lions and bears. Fighting this Philistine will be no different. **The LORD who delivered me from the**

**paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of the Philistine.”**

King Saul then gave David his own armor to wear for the battle. But the king was much taller and bigger than David. When David tried to walk around with it on, he couldn't. It was too big, so he took it off. David headed down the valley to the battle line with his staff in his hand. He chose five smooth stones from the stream and placed them in his shepherd's bag. He had his slingshot in his hand as he approached Goliath.

When Goliath saw David approaching, he was surprised. *Out of the whole army of Israel, a small boy with only a staff and a slingshot was coming to fight him.* He said, “What do you think I am, a dog? You are coming at me with sticks? I will kill you and throw your body to the birds.”

David responded by saying, “You come against me with a sword and spear and javelin. But I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel.” As Goliath moved closer, David ran towards him, reached into his pouch, and took out a stone. He slung it and struck Goliath in the forehead. Goliath fell facedown and died. When the Philistines saw that their champion fighter was dead they all ran away. The Israelites chased them down and defeated them.

David was able to defeat Goliath not because of his own strength and skills, but because he depended on God. If we depend on God we can defeat big problems, too. David believed today's Bible verse. Let's say it together. *The LORD is my strength. Psalm 28:7*

FYI

First Session Classes will be:

- Playing Sponge Toss
- Eating a Sack Lunch – Bread & Cheese
- Coloring David Meets a Giant Page
- Painting Paper Stones

## TUNNELS

Materials: Tunnel Toy

Do: Open up the tunnel toy. Help the children pretend to be on a journey. Tell them to go through the tunnel to get to their destination.

Talk about: You can make it a relay race. (No teams, just race against time). Have them carry a block or other item as *luggage*. David's father Jesse told him to travel to his brothers in the army. He had a long journey. Maybe he had to go through caves and tunnels?

## MEASURE GOLIATH AND CHILDREN

- Materials: 9 foot piece of paper  
Markers (In room)
- Do: Lay paper on the floor. (You may draw a *Goliath stick figure* if you would like). Have the children take turns lying on the paper with their feet flush with the bottom. Make a mark on the paper at their head. Take a turn yourself to show how Goliath was a lot taller than you.
- Talk about: Today, being 6 feet tall is considered TALL. (Back when David was a boy, most Israelites were only about 5 feet tall). Goliath was almost twice as tall as they were!

## KNOCK DOWN THE GIANT GAME

TEACHER EXTRA: Bring enough 2-liter or similar size bottles for each child to take one home.

- Materials: Goliath Coloring Pages  
2 lt. Bottle  
Large Balloon for each child  
Rice  
Funnel  
Crayons (In room)  
Tape (In room)
- Do: Let the children color their Goliath pictures. If there are enough bottles for each child, let them tape their picture to a 2-liter bottle. Otherwise, set aside for them to take home. (They can ask their parents to tape it to a 2-liter bottle when they get home).  
Color an extra Goliath picture. Tape to a bottle. Fill bottle  $\frac{1}{4}$  full with water. (Less for younger children)  
Let the children help make one stone each. Using funnel, add 2 to 3 Tbs. of rice to a balloon. Tie closed.  
Let the children use their *stones* to try to **Knock Down the Giant**.
- Talk about: David was a small boy. He used just one stone in his slingshot to hit and kill Goliath, a giant Man. David knew that it was the power of God that defeated Goliath.