



UNIT 11 | SESSION 2

DAVID FOUGHT GOLIATH

1 SAMUEL 17

KEY PASSAGE:

Ephesians 1:7-8

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

What is grace? Grace is when God gives us something good even when we do not deserve it.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

The Israelites were not strong enough to fight Goliath, the mighty Philistine warrior, on their own. God gave David power to defeat Goliath. David reminds us of Jesus, who came to save us from our greatest enemies: sin and death. Jesus, the ultimate hero, saves us from our sin and gives us eternal life.



PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION



LEADER Bible Study

The name of the Lord is holy and set apart. For those who follow Christ, the name of God is one which ought to be esteemed above all other names.

In 1 Samuel 17, Goliath, the giant warrior of the Philistines, showed little regard for the God of the Israelites. He mocked not only the armies of Israel, but their God as well. Though Goliath had his own gods by whom he cursed David, he did not count the God of Israel to be of any value.

When Goliath mocked the Israelites, the power of God was unleashed through the most unlikely of people. The Lord used David to shout His fame and declare to all the earth “that Israel has a God” (1 Sam. 17:46).

The power of God is revealed in every instance in Scripture where the name of the Lord is used. When God-fearing prophets, priests, and ordinary people call on the name of the Lord, we see time and again the power of God on display.

When David encountered the giant, he said, “I come against you in the name of the LORD of Armies, the God of the ranks of Israel” (1 Sam. 17:45). David knew the power of God’s name. And God acted for His glory as He won the battle for Israel.

The power of the name of God is seen most notably in the person and work of

Jesus Christ. Paul wrote in Philippians 2:9-11, “For this reason God highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow—and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

Jesus perfectly exalted the name of God through His sinless life and how He loved others. Jesus demonstrated the power of God’s name through His death, burial, and resurrection. The same power is ours through Christ, and helps us to live for the glory of God’s name.

PEOPLE TO KNOW

Philistines: One of the rival groups the Israelites encountered as they settled the land of Canaan. Three Philistine gods are mentioned in the Old Testament: Dagon, Ashtoreth, and Baalzebub.



WELCOME Kids

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to collect the offering, fill out attendance sheets, build relationships, and help new kids connect to your group.

SAY “Have you ever had to do something you were afraid to do? What helped you conquer your fear?”

1 ACTIVITY PAGE (5 minutes)

Invite kids to complete “Draw a Giant” on the activity page.

SAY “Today, we will hear the amazing story of how God helped a young man named David to do something most people thought was impossible. I am so excited to share this story with you!”

2 SESSION STARTER (10 minutes)

OPTION 1: EQUIPPED

Use fishing line to hang 3 hula hoops from the ceiling, one above the other. Place a piece of tape on the ground, about ten feet away from the hula hoops. Direct kids to line up, one behind the other, behind the tape line. Form kids into small enough groups and create enough hula hoop targets so that every kid can have a chance to play. Challenge kids to take 5 giant marshmallows and throw them into one of the three hula hoops. If a marshmallow goes in the top hoop, kids get 15 points. If it goes in the middle hoop they receive 10 points and if it goes in the bottom hoop, they receive 5 points. Continue until every kid has had a chance to play.

SAY “Did you have everything you needed to complete this game? [Allow kids to respond.] Yes, but it was up to you to use the tools provided. Today, we will hear the story of how God equipped a young man to have victory over the enemy.”

OPTION 2: IS IT STRONG ENOUGH?



Form kids into groups of 5 and give each group a variety of magnets and metal objects. Direct kids to experiment with the magnets and objects and observe what happens. Encourage kids to discover which magnets are stronger than the others by placing magnets far away from a metal object and slowly move it closer until the metal object begins to be attracted by the magnet. Direct kids to observe whether the size or shape of the magnet seemed to have anything to do with its strength and whether putting two magnets together increased the magnetic strength.

SAY “Did some of the smaller magnets surprise you with their strength? What happened when you placed two magnets together? In today’s story we will be reminded of a time that God gave a young man strength to do something that seemed impossible.”





LEARN

THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

LEARN the Bible Story

1 TELL THE BIBLE STORY: VIDEO OR STORYTELLER (10 minutes)

Open your Bible to 1 Samuel 17. Use the Bible storytelling tips to help you tell the story, or show the Bible story video “David Fought Goliath.” Use the bold text to retell or review the story.

DAVID FOUGHT GOLIATH

“ King Saul gave young David an important job as his armor-bearer. **One day, the Israelites’ enemies, the Philistines, came into the land to fight.** King Saul got his army ready, and they lined up on a hillside. The Philistine army stood on another hill, and a small valley separated them.

The Philistines had a great warrior named Goliath. He was 9 feet, 9 inches tall! He towered above the other men. Goliath shouted at the Israelites, “Send me your best man, and we’ll fight one-on-one.” But **none of the Israelites wanted to fight Goliath. They were afraid of him.**

One day, Jesse told David to take food to the battlefield. David’s three oldest brothers were in the Israelite army, and David gave them the food to eat. Then **David saw Goliath.** He heard Goliath making fun of the Israelites, and he saw that everyone was too afraid to fight.

“Who is this man who comes against the army of the one true God?” David asked. Then David turned to King Saul and said, “I’ll fight him!”

“You don’t stand a chance against Goliath,” King Saul said.

“I’ve killed wild animals, like lions and bears,” David said. “God will keep me safe.”

So King Saul let David fight Goliath. Saul offered his armor to David, but it was too heavy. Instead, **David chose five smooth stones from a nearby stream and met Goliath armed only with the stones and a sling.**

Goliath made fun of David because he was a young boy, but David said, “You come to fight with a spear and sword, but I come to fight in the name of the Lord! God always wins His battles!”

David ran toward Goliath. He slung a stone, and the stone hit Goliath in the forehead. Goliath fell facedown, and David killed him. The Israelites shouted in victory and chased the Philistines out of the land.

Christ Connection: The Israelites were not strong enough to fight Goliath, the mighty Philistine warrior, on their own. God gave David power to defeat Goliath. David reminds us of Jesus, who came to save us from our greatest enemies: sin and death. Jesus, the ultimate hero, saves us from our sin and gives us eternal life. ”

STORYTELLING TIPS

Display a visual aid:

Allow kids to visualize how tall Goliath was by taping nine feet of painters tape to the wall or to the floor of the room. Allow kids to stand or lie down by the tape to see how Goliath’s height compares to their height.

Use dramatic dialogue:

Tell the story as if you were a soldier who witnessed the events of the day. Emphasize how intimidating Goliath was and how incredible it was that a young man like David would volunteer to take on the giant Goliath.

2 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

SAY “ Our story told us that David’s older brothers were part of Israel’s army, but that David stayed home, caring for his father’s sheep. So why did David go to the battlefield? Look at 1 Samuel 17:17-18. **[Choose a volunteer to read aloud 1 Samuel 17:17-18.]** David went to the battlefield to check on his brothers and bring them food. Do you think this was a coincidence? **[Allow kids to respond.]** No! God is in control of everything. He arranged for David to be there because God wanted to use David to conquer Goliath and show the people that He alone is God and He alone saves.

When David said that he would fight Goliath how did King Saul respond? Look at 1 Samuel 17:33. **[Choose a volunteer to read aloud 1 Sam. 17:33.]** King Saul told David that he was too young to fight Goliath. Goliath was an experienced warrior and David was just a young man without experience and without a weapon to match Goliath’s. Do you remember what weapons David brought with him? Look at 1 Samuel 17:40. **[Allow kids to respond.]** David chose five smooth stones and a sling. The Israelites and the Philistines probably thought David was crazy for fighting Goliath with only those items, but were they enough? Yes! They were enough because David fought in the name of the Lord and in the Lord’s strength. ”

3 CHRIST CONNECTION

SAY “ The Israelites were not strong enough to fight Goliath, the mighty Philistine warrior, on their own. God gave David power to defeat Goliath. David reminds us of Jesus, who came to save us from our greatest enemies: sin and death. Jesus, the ultimate hero, saves us from our sin and gives us eternal life. ”

(Tip: Use Scripture and the Gospel Plan Poster to explain how to become a Christian. Make sure kids know when and where they can ask questions.)

4 QUESTIONS FROM KIDS (3 minutes)

Show the “Unit 11, Session 2” questions from kids video. Prompt kids to discuss:

1. Can you be brave like David? What if you don’t feel brave?
2. How can knowing and trusting God help you be brave?