

UNIT 11 | SESSION 1

# DAVID DEFEATED GOLIATH

1 SAMUEL 17



**CHRIST CONNECTION:** The Israelites needed God's help to defeat Goliath, so God sent David. We all need help to fight against sin. God sent His Son, Jesus, to win against sin so we can have life with God forever.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Is anything greater than God? No, God is greater than everything.

**KEY PASSAGE:** Jeremiah 10:6

**STORY POINT:** God gave David power to defeat Goliath.



## PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

### LEADER Bible Study

The story of David and Goliath reveals more than a battle between a shepherd boy and a giant. Through this showdown, we recognize how the powers of this world set themselves in opposition to the one true God. While Israel needed someone to face Goliath on their behalf, we too, need a Savior to defeat our enemies—sin and death.

Where did David find strength to fight against Goliath? How does the story point us to the true Hero, Jesus?

David was no stranger to the faithfulness and protection of God. He said to Saul, “The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine.” David saw the threat of Goliath, yet recognized he had what Goliath didn’t—the favor of the Lord of Armies. David trusted that God would secure the victory for His own name’s sake. Just as God had proven Himself faithful in David’s battles against lions and bears, David knew that Goliath posed no threat to those whose faith is in God.

David’s faith in the Lord of Armies encourages us to remember how God has provided us with victory through His Son, Jesus. The true hero of this story is Jesus—the foreshadowed victor in the battle against sin and death—who took to the cross to defeat the grave and rose again so we may find new life in Him.

Lead boys and girls to see that, like David, we can trust in God for salvation and in every circumstance we face. While we may not find ourselves going to war with a giant like Goliath, we do face the reality of sin and death and cannot save ourselves. We need a Savior who has already won the battle! Pray that preschoolers place their hope not in themselves or the things of this world, but in Christ alone.



#### PREPARE

##### THE WEEK PRIOR

Prepare your heart to teach; plan the session



#### WELCOME

##### 10–15 MINUTES

Greet preschoolers and open the session



#### LEARN

##### 25–30 MINUTES

Teach preschoolers the story of the gospel



#### LOVE

##### 15–20 MINUTES

Lead preschoolers to love the God of the gospel



#### LIVE

##### 15–20 MINUTES

Lead preschoolers to live the mission of the gospel



## PREPARE

### PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

## GATHER Supplies

Keep a regular supply of the following items available at all times: Bibles, Allergy Alert, construction paper, copy paper, washable markers, crayons, blunt-tipped scissors, glue sticks, glue, tape, blocks, baby dolls, play dough, world map, snacks, paper cups, napkins.



### WELCOME

#### Welcome

- “You Are Great (Jeremiah 10:6)” song

#### Activity Page

- “Draw the Stones” Activity Page, 1 per child

#### Play with animal figures

- lion, bear, and sheep animal figures

#### Transition

- countdown video (optional)



### LOVE

#### Snack and talk

- hand sanitizer (optional)
- Bible Story Picture Poster
- Big Picture Question Poster

#### Choose big or small

- various items, such as seashells, craft pom-poms, craft sticks, pieces of paper, and books
- large bag
- small basket
- big basket



### LEARN

#### Introduce the Bible story

- smooth stone

#### Learn about the Bible

- bookmark
- Giant Timeline or Small Group Timeline

#### Tell the Bible story

- Bible Story Picture Poster
- “David Defeated Goliath” video (optional)
- storytelling tips props (optional)

#### Practice the key passage

- Key Passage Marker
- Key Passage Poster
- “You Are Great (Jeremiah 10:6)” song

#### Learn the Big Picture Question

- Big Picture Question Poster

#### Missions moment

- “Ryan and Tricia McCammack: Loving a Diverse Community” missions video



### LIVE

#### Make a slingshot craft

- craft sticks, 3 per child
- yarn, 5-inch piece per child

#### See how tall Goliath is

- yarn, 10 foot piece
- sticky notes

#### Toss stones

- masking tape
- beanbags, 5
- bucket

#### Transition

- coloring page, 1 per child
- “You Are Great (Jeremiah 10:6)” song
- Big Picture Cards for Families



## WELCOME Preschoolers

Post an Allergy Alert, if needed. Set out supplies to engage preschoolers as they arrive. Play music as you welcome preschoolers. Greet children by name at eye level. Follow your church's security procedures.

### 1 ACTIVITY PAGE

Lead preschoolers to complete "Draw the Stones" on the Activity Page.

**SAY** 🗨️ You were really good at drawing five rocks in each row. What do you like to do with rocks? [Allow responses.] Today, we will hear a Bible story about a man named David. He chose five smooth rocks to defeat a really tall warrior named Goliath. 🗨️

### 2 SESSION STARTER

Use one or both of the following options to engage curiosity about today's Bible story.

#### DRAW WITH CRAYON BUNDLES



Before the session, bundle five crayons together, and secure with masking tape. Make several sets. Place the crayon bundles and paper on a table. Encourage preschoolers to draw pictures or make designs using the crayon bundles.

**SAY** 🗨️ There are five crayons in your bundle. In today's Bible story, David chose five smooth stones from a stream to battle a tall warrior named Goliath. The people did not think David could win, but **GOD GAVE DAVID POWER TO DEFEAT GOLIATH.** 🗨️

#### PLAY WITH ANIMAL FIGURES

Encourage the preschoolers to play with bear, lion, and sheep animal figures. Use blocks to build caves and hills for the animals to sleep and hide inside.

**SAY** 🗨️ You thought of fun ways to play with the animals. What sound does a lion make? What sound does a sheep make? Today, we will hear a story about David. He was a shepherd, so he took care of sheep. He kept his sheep safe from animals like bears and lions. 🗨️

### 3 TRANSITION TO LEARN

Gain preschoolers' attention by showing the countdown video, turning the lights off and on, or clapping a simple rhythm for children to copy. Invite preschoolers to bleat like sheep as they transition to Learn.

Transition from **WELCOME** to **LEARN**





## LEARN the Bible Story

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### 1 INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

Show a smooth stone to the preschoolers, and allow them to touch it. Ask them if there is anything special or powerful about the stone.

**SAY** “ This is a pretty spectacular stone, but it does not have the power to make us stronger. Power and strength come from God—that’s what happened in today’s Bible story. David fought against a very tall warrior named Goliath. All David had was a slingshot and stones. **GOD GAVE DAVID POWER TO DEFEAT GOLIATH.** I can’t wait to open the Bible and tell you more! ”

### 2 LEARN ABOUT THE BIBLE

Place a bookmark at 1 Samuel 17 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it. Reverently display the open Bible.

**SAY** “ We will hear a true story from the Bible, God’s Word. Our story today is found in the book of 1 Samuel in the Old Testament. ”

Point to the Bible story picture on the Giant Timeline or Small Group Timeline. Remind children that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

### 3 TELL THE BIBLE STORY

Tell the following Bible story using the provided storytelling tips or show the video. Use the bold version of the Bible story for younger preschoolers.

#### DAVID DEFEATED GOLIATH

“ **The Israelite army was getting ready to fight the Philistines.** The two big armies stood on opposite hills with a deep valley between them.

**The Philistines had a giant warrior named Goliath. Goliath was very tall—almost 10 feet tall! He wore heavy armor, and every day Goliath came out and shouted at the Israelites. “Send someone to fight me!” he said. “If you win, we will serve you. If I win, you will serve us.” Goliath did this every day for 40 days. All the Israelites were scared, even King Saul.**

**One day, David—who was just a boy—came to the battlefield to bring food to his brothers in the Israelite army. David heard Goliath’s challenge.** He said, “Who does Goliath think he is to challenge God’s army?”

When **King Saul** heard what David said, he **called for David. David said, “I’ll fight Goliath!”** Saul was worried because David was young, but David said, “I protect my father’s sheep from lions and bears.” **David trusted God would help him defeat Goliath.**

Saul gave David his armor, but it was too big. **So David went to face Goliath with only a sling and five smooth stones. David told Goliath, “God will help me win this battle!” Then David used his**



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sling to throw a stone at Goliath. The stone hit Goliath on the forehead. Goliath fell facedown to the ground and died. ”

4 CHRIST CONNECTION

SAY “ The Israelites needed God’s help to defeat Goliath, so God sent David. We all need help to fight against sin. God sent His Son, Jesus, to win against sin so we can have life with God forever. ”

5 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

Invite preschoolers to do movements and make sounds with you as you review the Bible story together.

SAY “ In our story, a giant came to fight the Israelites. What was his name? (Goliath) [Flex arm muscles.] Everyone was afraid to fight Goliath, because he was so big and strong. There was only one person who was not afraid to fight Goliath. [Hold up one finger.] His name was David. David was not a soldier. What was David’s job? (shepherd) Shepherds take care of sheep. What sound do sheep make? (Baaa) David knew God was stronger than Goliath, and He would help David win. What did David use to defeat Goliath? (A sling and a stone) [Swing arm above head like throwing a sling.] GOD GAVE DAVID POWER TO DEFEAT GOLIATH. The Israelites needed someone to save them from Goliath, and God sent David. God sent Jesus to save us from our sins. ”

6 PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE

Place the Key Passage Marker at Jeremiah 10:6. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Read the key passage aloud. Create motions for preschoolers to use as they say the key passage. Use the key passage song video for inspiration.

SAY “ Today in our story, Goliath looked bigger and more powerful than anyone! However, GOD GAVE DAVID POWER TO DEFEAT GOLIATH. God is greater and more powerful than anything or anyone else. ”

Sing the key passage song, “You Are Great (Jeremiah 10:6).” You may also choose to sing a worship song of your choice.

STORYTELLING TIPS

Measure Goliath: Use a 10-foot piece of string to show the preschoolers how tall Goliath was.

Use motions: Hold up muscles every time the name “Goliath” is said, and praying hands every time “David” is mentioned.



LEARN

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### 7 LEARN THE BIG PICTURE QUESTION AND ANSWER

**SAY** “ Our new big picture question asks, **Is there anything greater than God?** The answer is, **No, God is greater than everything.** Even though Goliath looked strong and powerful, God is greater because He is the Creator of the world and ruler over everything. ”

### 8 MISSIONS MOMENT

Tell preschoolers they will learn about a couple named Ryan and Tricia McCammack who are missionaries in Georgia. Show the “Ryan and Tricia McCammack: Loving a Diverse Community” missions video.

**SAY** “ The area around Atlanta, Georgia, has a large community of people who moved there from other countries. More than 100 different languages are spoken in the area. Since there are so many people with different cultures and backgrounds, many new churches need to be started to help the people learn about Jesus. ”

Pray for the McCammacks and Gospel Hope Church as they tell the people in their neighborhood about Jesus.

Transition from **LEARN** to **LOVE**





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## LOVE God because of what we learned

### 1 PRAY

Invite preschoolers to close their eyes and think about God as they talk with Him.

**SAY** “ God, You are greater than anything. You are stronger than everything else around us. Thank You for sending Jesus to save us from our sin. We love You, and we praise You for being so great and powerful. Amen. ”

### 2 SNACK AND TALK

Post an Allergy Alert. Wash hands or use hand sanitizer. Serve a snack. Show the Bible Story Picture Poster as you ask the following questions. Retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

**SAY** “ What was your favorite part of today’s Bible story? ”

**SAY** “ What did you learn about God in today’s Bible story? ”

**SAY** “ What did David use to defeat Goliath? ”

**SAY** “ Is anything greater than God? No, God is greater than everything. ”

### 3 CHOOSE BIG OR SMALL

Gather big and small items such as seashells, craft pom-poms, blocks, craft sticks, pieces of paper, and books. Show the items to the preschoolers, noting the difference in size between the big and small items. Place all the items in a large bag. Gather the children in a line on one side of the room, and place the bag next to the first child in line. Place a small basket and a big basket on the other side of the room. When it is their turn, tell preschoolers to reach in the bag and select an item. Instruct them to decide if the selected item is big or small, walk across the room, and put it in the corresponding basket. (Note: If you have a large class, consider forming multiple groups of children and having multiple sets of supplies.)

**SAY** “ You chose items from the bag and decided if they were big or small. We learned in our Bible story that David was small, and Goliath was big and tall. **GOD GAVE DAVID POWER TO BEAT GOLIATH.** David saved the Israelites from Goliath. Jesus is the hero who saved us from sin by dying on the cross and coming back to life so we can live with Him forever. ”

Transition from **LOVE** to **LIVE**





## THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

### LIVE for God out of love

- 1 Choose the activities that best fit your group, space, available resources, and time constraints. Set up activities in one of these ways: as a group—all at the same time, in small groups that rotate through each activity, or set up as centers—allowing preschoolers to browse and choose.

#### PLAY IT OUT



Explain you will say things that happened in today's story. Lead preschoolers to do the following motions when you say the phrases:

"The people were scared." (Make a frightened face.)

"Goliath was tall." (Stand up tall on tiptoes.)

"David was small." (Bend down low to the ground.)

"But God always wins His battles!" (Stand tall with hands on hips.)

Say the events in order, leading preschoolers to do the motions. Then, say the phrases in different orders. Repeat the statements several times. Vary the speed and tone of your words. See how quickly and how slowly preschoolers can do the motions as you say the words.

**SAY** "You did a great job doing actions as I said different parts of today's Bible story. Goliath was very tall. The Israelites were too afraid to fight him. David volunteered to fight Goliath. What do you think Goliath thought when he learned David, a young boy, was willing to fight him? How do you think David felt? [Allow responses.] David chose five smooth stones from a nearby stream to fight Goliath. **GOD GAVE DAVID POWER TO DEFEAT GOLIATH.** Even though David was not strong, God is, and together, they defeated the enemy. God helped us defeat our enemy, too. He sent Jesus to save us from our sin, so that we could live with Him forever."

#### MAKE A SLINGSHOT CRAFT

Before the session, write God is greater than everything at the top of construction paper, one per child. Give each preschooler a paper, three craft sticks, a bottle of glue, and a piece of yarn. Help preschoolers glue the craft sticks in the shape of a slingshot (resembling a "Y" on the paper). Assist preschoolers in gluing the string between the two top craft sticks to complete the slingshot. Review the Bible story as preschoolers work on their projects.

**SAY** "You made a great slingshot. In our Bible story today, who used a slingshot? [Allow responses.] David used a slingshot to defeat Goliath, but remember, **GOD GAVE DAVID POWER TO DEFEAT GOLIATH.** God's people needed His help to defeat Goliath, so God sent David. We all need help to fight against sin. God sent His Son, Jesus, to win against sin so we can have life with God forever."



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### SEE HOW TALL GOLIATH IS

Tape a 10-foot piece of yarn vertically on the wall. Give each preschooler a sticky note and set colored pencils within reach. Lead preschoolers to draw their self-portrait on the sticky note. Invite each preschooler to stick their picture next to the yarn to compare their height to Goliath.

**SAY** “ Goliath was so tall! He was way bigger and taller than any of us. Everyone was afraid of Goliath because he was so strong and powerful. David trusted that God would help him defeat Goliath, and He did! God is greater than anything. **Is there anything greater than God? No, God is greater than everything.** ”

### TOSS STONES

Use a strip of masking tape to make a boundary line on the floor, and set a bucket about three feet from the line (depending on your preschoolers' ability). Mention that you have five beanbags that you will pretend are “stones.” Demonstrate how to stand behind the line and toss the beanbags into the bucket. Choose a preschooler to toss the beanbags, being sure each child has a turn. (Note: If you have a larger class, consider adding more buckets at varying distances for a fun challenge or setting up multiple stations.)

**SAY** “ You used your strong arms to toss the stones into the bucket. **GOD GAVE DAVID POWER TO DEFEAT GOLIATH** with just a sling and one stone. God also showed His power when He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross and come back to life to save us from sin. ”

### 2 TRANSITION

Invite preschoolers to complete their coloring pages. Consider leading preschoolers to sing the key passage song or involving them in a simple game to practice the key passage or big picture question. If parents are picking up children at this time, tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session. Give parents the completed Activity Page. Distribute the Big Picture Cards for Families. Encourage parents to review the Bible story and engage with the family discussion starters during the week.