

## LESSON 2 DAVID AND GOLIATH

### LESSON AT A GLANCE

**WONDER TRUTH:** God Will Always Be Victorious

**SCRIPTURE:** 1 Samuel 17

**GOD'S BIG STORY:** King Saul and the nation of Israel overcome a giant challenge when they face the mighty Philistines and their powerful champion, Goliath. But God brings a miraculous victory through a young shepherd boy named David.

**WORD OF WONDER:** Be strong and brave. Do not be afraid. God will be with you wherever you go.  
—from Joshua 1:9

### CURIOSITY

### BELIEF

### FAITH

- Play Stations:
  - Stone Sensory Bin
  - Big and Small
  - David and Goliath Coloring Sheet
- Curiosity Activity: Measure Me
- Word of Wonder: From Joshua 1:9
- Circle Time: Falling Down
- God's Big Story / Snack
- LARGE GROUP
- Responding in Worship: God Gives Victory
- Closing Game: Gather the Stones



[Victory Preschool Spotify playlist](#)



**INVITATION**

We invite you to pause, listen, and shift your gaze toward the Father ...

**LESSON AT A GLANCE**

**WONDER TRUTH:** God Will Always Be Victorious

**SCRIPTURE:** 1 Samuel 17

**WORD OF WONDER:** From Joshua 1:9

Is there any story in Scripture that is more well-known than David and Goliath?

A Google search of those names offers more than 24 million results. The story is a staple of kids ministry curricula, the subject of many Hollywood movies, and the phrase “David vs. Goliath” is a longtime fixture in our sports lexicon for describing a contest between a significant underdog and an overwhelming favorite.

Yet do we know the true meaning of the story? If we stop at the remarkable courage of a plucky young shepherd boy, we’ve missed the mark.

As you read 1 Samuel 17 this week, consider the real hero of the story. Even David knew the victory over Goliath wasn’t ultimately his own. Before slinging that famous stone, he declared, “This day the LORD will give me the victory over you. ... The battle belongs to the LORD. He will hand all of you over to us” (1 Samuel 17:46–47).

God will always be victorious, and all the glory is His. Christ has already conquered our greatest enemies—sin, Satan, and death—through His death and resurrection. And if “God did not spare his own Son. ... Then won’t he also freely give us everything else?” (Romans 8:32). Indeed, He will.

This week, in whatever challenges you might face, rejoice in the God who fights for His people: He is always victorious!

—**Josh Cooley**

Children’s Minister and Author

Contributor to Wonder Ink

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS**

**WHO?**

David, a lowly shepherd, was described as a man after God's own heart. He was anointed the second king of Israel by Samuel the prophet after God rejected King Saul for disobedience. Goliath was a Philistine warrior from Gath who stood over nine feet tall.

**WHAT?**

Goliath challenged any willing Israelite to single combat to decide a battle between the Israelites and the Philistines. While visiting his brothers to bring supplies, David accepted the challenge, trusting God's power to win any battle. David killed Goliath with a sling and a stone.

**WHERE?**

Philistine territory lay along the Mediterranean coast, west of the Dead Sea. The battle took place between two cities on the eastern side of the Valley of Elah, which lay between Philistine territory and the Judean hill country. Bethlehem was 15 miles east of Elah.

**WHEN?**

First Samuel recounts the beginning of the monarchy after the time of the judges. David had recently been anointed the second king of Israel when he faced Goliath, though King Saul was still on the throne. David served as one of Saul's armor-bearers.

**CONNECTING TO GOD'S BIG STORY**

David triumphed despite seemingly impossible odds because of God's power. Such victories point to the even greater victory of the cross, where a power greater than death itself arrived on the scene through Jesus, a descendant of David. Now death is swallowed up in victory!



## LESSON 2 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Spark curiosity, encourage exploration, and get kids thinking about the wonder of God.

### LESSON AT A GLANCE

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### Play Stations

**SUPPLIES:** small stones and rocks; large, shallow bin; coloring utensils

**RESOURCES:** [David and Goliath Coloring Sheet \(1 per kid\)](#)

Greet kids warmly as they arrive and briefly explain the play stations. Invite them to play at any of the play stations.

**"Welcome to church! While we're getting ready to start, you can play at any of these stations to help get ready for our lesson today. Do you have any ideas of what we'll be learning about today?"**

#### Play Station: Stone Sensory Bin

**Set-up:** Place stones and rocks in a large, shallow bin.

**Play:** Allow kids to play with the rocks and stones in the sensory bin. Invite kids to talk about how the stones are different or similar.

#### Play Station: David and Goliath Coloring Sheet

**Set-up:** Print one copy per kid of the Coloring Sheet. Set out the Coloring Sheets and coloring utensils.

**Play:** Let the kids color. The kids can also turn the sheet over and draw the biggest thing they have ever seen.

### Curiosity Activity: Measure Me

**SUPPLIES:** butcher paper (at least 9'), painter's tape, measuring tapes, rulers, yardsticks, marker

**"In our story today, we're going to hear about someone who was very, very tall and someone else who was much shorter! We can use measuring tapes, rulers, and yardsticks to measure how tall someone is. Let's see how tall you are. Then, we will see if we can measure nine feet, which is the height of the person in our story today!"**

Tape a long piece of butcher paper to the wall. Measure 9 feet and mark it on the paper (or as tall as your ceilings allow). Have kids take turns standing up against it. Mark each kid's height. Then compare the kids' height to the 9 foot marking. Then, let them use measuring tapes, rulers, and yardsticks to measure each other. You can even draw an outline of a person who is 9 feet tall and hang it on the wall for a visual during the story.

## Word of Wonder

**SUPPLIES:** Bible, painter's tape, cardstock (4 sheets, optional)

**RESOURCES:** [Word of Wonder Printable 1 per SG](#) - \*\*from Lesson 1

Ahead of time, print the Word of Wonder Printable onto four sheets of cardstock or regular paper. Tape the sheets in a row on the ground, in order. Tape the sheets close enough to each other so that the kids can easily hop from one sheet to the next.

**"Our Word of Wonder from Joshua 1:9 tells us to be strong and brave. Why was David able to be strong and brave going into the battle against the big warrior? Allow the kids to respond. God was with him! God helped him win against Goliath because God is always victorious. To practice our Word of Wonder, we will take turns jumping onto these pictures on the floor. Every time you land on a picture, you can make the motion for that part of the verse."**



Have kids line up and take turns jumping from picture to picture as they do the corresponding motions from the Word of Wonder. Kids who are done with taking a turn can face those who have yet to jump and do the corresponding motions along with them as they stand in place.

### WORD OF WONDER

**Be strong and brave. Do not be afraid. God will be with you wherever you go.**

—from Joshua 1:9

**Our Word of Wonder has one more part.** Hold up the fourth page. **This last page says, “wherever you go.” God will be with us wherever we go, so we can be strong and brave! Let’s pretend we’re walking in place while we say “wherever you go.”** Repeat this phrase and action with the kids several times and then go through all four pages and motions. Encourage kids to say Joshua 1:9 at the end.

Encourage the kids to do the motions and say the verse with you.

- **BE STRONG AND BRAVE.**—Flex both arms.
- **DO NOT BE AFRAID.**—Shake head.
- **GOD WILL BE WITH YOU**—Point up.
- **WHEREVER YOU GO.**—Walk in place.
- **FROM JOSHUA 1:9**—Hold your hands together in front, palms together, as if opening a book.

Gather kids to discuss these questions:

- **What two things does our Word of Wonder tell us God can help us be?** (strong and brave)
- **How does it feel to know God is with you wherever you go?**

## God's Big Story / Snack

**SUPPLIES:** Bible

While kids are eating snack, hold up a Bible and show the kids. Tell them today's story comes from the book of 1 Samuel in the Bible. Open a Bible and show them where to find the story.

### Bible Time Rhyme

Say the Bible time rhyme (with motions) each week before the Bible story to remind kids that what they're about to hear is part of God's big story.

**I open my Bible and what do I see?** (Hold your hands together, then open your palms, as if opening a book.)

**God's big story, waiting for me!** (Point to yourself.)

**"Let's hear part of God's big story, which comes from the book of 1 Samuel in the Bible."**

**Read pages 130–135 in the Laugh and Grow Bible.**

## Circle Time: Falling Down

**Wonder Ink RESOURCES:** stone; music from the [Victory Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#)

**"Today we heard about how God helped David beat Goliath with a stone and a sling! God is always victorious. When we say that God is always victorious, we mean that God always wins. We're going to play a fun game called Falling Down as we pass around a stone. When the music stops, whoever is holding the stone will fall like Goliath did."**

Ask kids to sit in a circle. Have kids pass the stone around the circle as the music plays. When the music stops, whoever is holding the stone can fall like Goliath. Continue playing several rounds.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- **Who was yelling at the Israelites?** (Goliath)
- **Why were the people afraid of Goliath?** (He was big and tall.)
- **Who told King Saul he could win the battle against Goliath?** (David)
- **Why did David think he could win against Goliath?** (He knew God was victorious. God had helped him win against fierce animals. David said the battle belonged to the Lord.)
- **What happened in the battle between David and Goliath?** (David won. Goliath was killed with a single stone.)
- **What does the word victorious mean?** (wins)
- **Who is always victorious?** (God)
- **In today's story, how did God show He is always victorious?**

**We played a fun game where we passed the stone and fell down like Goliath. We all have times when we feel afraid. David and the Israelites didn't have to be afraid anymore because God helped them win! When we're afraid, we can remember God is always victorious and He's on our side. Let's talk to God now in prayer!**

Invite kids to share prayer requests and praises and to pray for each other. Some kids may not be comfortable praying out loud. That's OK! Encourage them to pray silently and to thank God for being victorious.

## Head to Large Group!

### Responding in Worship: God Gives Victory

**SUPPLIES:** cardboard boxes (at least 3); markers; handheld musical instruments such as bells, shakers, and tambourines (optional)

**RESOURCES:** music from the [Victory Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#)

Before you begin, stack several cardboard boxes. You can set out some handheld musical instruments if you want the kids to use them to accompany the music.

**"In God's big story today, we learned that God will always be victorious. God helped David win against Goliath. In this worship time, you can think of one problem God has helped you with or one way God has given you victory or helped you to be brave. You can also think of a big problem or fear in your life and remember that God is with you when you feel afraid. He will help you and give you victory! You can be strong and brave because God is on your side.**

**Imagine that the stack of cardboard boxes is like a giant problem or fear in your life. Use a marker to draw (or write) your problem or fear onto one of the boxes. Then we'll pray and thank God for helping us, and we'll knock down the boxes together as we remember that God is always victorious."**

Allow the kids to use markers to write or draw their problems or fears on the boxes, then pray with the kids and thank God for His victory. Allow the kids to knock down the tower of boxes together (or to take turns knocking it down). After knocking down the boxes, turn on some music from the [Victory Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#) and allow the kids to worship by singing and dancing or by playing instruments along with the songs.

## Game: Goliath Knockout

**SUPPLIES:** medium boxes (3–4), small boxes (3–4), playground balls (optional)

Before playing this game, stack cardboard boxes for kids to knock down. You will want to have the larger ones on the bottom. The stack should be at least as tall as the kids (or taller!).

**Goliath was very tall! Yet God helped David win in a battle against him. David knocked Goliath down with a single stone in a slingshot! We're going to play a game called Goliath Knockout where we'll take turns running over and knocking down our box tower just like we did in our part of God's big story. When you knock it down, you can shout, "God will always be victorious!"**

Have kids line up on the side of the room opposite the stacked boxes. Let them run over one at a time and use their hands and legs to knock down the stack of boxes. Then they can restack them. As each child knocks over the boxes, have him shout, "God is victorious!" You can also ask the whole group to yell it together. Play until each kid has had a turn. You can also let the kids stand a few feet away from the stack and toss a playground ball at the stack of boxes to knock it down.

**Leader Tip:** You may want to position a leader next to the boxes to help restack between turns.

## Closing Game: Gather the Stones

**SUPPLIES:** pom-poms or small stones (5 per team), blue fabric or tablecloth (optional)

Before this game, set out pom-poms or stones on one side of the room by a pretend "river." You can set out blue fabric or paper or just pretend there's a riverbed on the floor (You can also use the painter's tape from the opening activity and tape the outline of a river on the floor)

**"David collected five stones in our story today, so we are going to collect five stones from a pretend river. As you gather the stones, remember how David faced Goliath because he knew that God was with him. God is with us too!"**

Divide the group into teams with 2–5 kids on each team. The teams will line up across from the stones and run down one at a time to gather a stone and then run back. The first team to gather five stones wins.

**David didn't need a big sword, or heavy armor—he just used five small stones—and God gave him victory over Goliath! God will always be victorious!"**