




David Defeats Goliath

1 Samuel 17:1-50

The goal to be a “big kid” is a huge one for 5- and 6-year-olds. As they strive to fit in to a world proportionately larger than they are, it can be discouraging and frustrating for children as they try to prove themselves. Use this lesson to teach the children that they don’t have to prove anything to anyone. God uses us just the way we are and will help us to do everything.

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Getting Started <i>about 10 min.</i>	Welcoming Song Sing a song welcoming all their classroom friends.	CD player Teacher Pack: CD	
2 Key Verse Activity <i>about 10 min.</i>	Weight of Worries Say a worry, lift a small weight, and repeat the Key Verse.	3-pound hand weight, Bible	
3 Bible Exploration <i>about 15 min.</i>	Theo’s News Find out what a small stone has to do with the Bible story.	CD player, Surprise Box, Theo puppet, small stone Teacher Pack: CD	Place the small stone in the Surprise Box, and hide the box where it’s easily accessible.
	Bible Time Form two “armies” that advance toward and retreat from a battle line throughout the story.	Bible, masking tape Teacher Pack: Paper Crown 	

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.



►Bible Point

God can help you do great things.

Key Verse

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God” (Philippians 4:6-7).

Weaving Faith Into Life

Children will know that they can do great things with God’s help.





LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
4 Weaving Faith Into Life <i>about 20 min.</i> <i>(Choose 2 centers.)</i>	Center 1: Little Giants Glue five pebbles to the student page to represent the five stones David picked up before the battle.	My Bible Playground, pebbles, glue sticks, markers	Remove the Lesson 10 pages from each My Bible Playground student book.
	Center 2: Rocks Make rice cereal rocks as a treat.	cake pan, margarine, marshmallows, rice cereal, mixing spoon	Pre-measure the ingredients for rice cereal treats (see recipe on cereal box). If you have more than 16 kids, consider doubling the recipe.
	Center 3: Down With One Throw Make a giant out of blocks, and then knock it down with wadded newspaper.	blocks, newspaper	
	Center 4: A Giant Help Draw faces of giants on balloons, and then pop away their “giants” and give their worries to God.	CD player, 2 balloons per child, colored permanent markers, string, scissors Teacher Pack: CD	
5 Lasting Impressions <i>about 10 min.</i>	Daily Challenges Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God’s Word.	My Bible Playground	
	My Giant Prayer Pretend to be giants as they give God their worries.		
	Weaving Faith at Home Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.		

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.





1 Samuel 17:1-50

BIBLE BACKGROUND
FOR LEADERS

David's Faith in God Carries the Day

The Jesus Connection

When have you done something for God that you didn't feel qualified to do? What great things might God be waiting to do through you? Thank God for the chances given to you to do great things for God. You can write your prayer here.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



Welcoming Song Supplies


CD player

Teacher Pack

CD: "Here We Are"
(track 8); "Love and
Pray" (Matthew 5:44)
(track 4)

1 GETTING STARTED


Welcoming Song

 **Tip** Consistently use the same signal to announce a transition to the next activity. You could flip the lights off and on, use a train whistle, have a puppet rustling inside a bag, or sing cleanup songs. Keep it simple, consistent, and fun.

What You'll Do


As the children arrive, greet each child and welcome him or her with a smile. When it's time to begin, use your signal to bring the children together in a circle.

Play "Here We Are" (track 8 on the CD) to the tune of "This Old Man" and lead children in doing the motions.

 **Here we are** (*put your right hand on the back of the person on your right*)
Once again. (*put your left hand on the back of the person on your left*)
We are here with all our friends. (*pat the backs of both neighbors*)
We will play and sing and (*clap to the beat twice*)
Talk to God above. (*raise both hands high*)
This classroom is full of love. (*cross both arms over chest to sign "love"*)
(Repeat 2x.)

Say: **Today we'll learn that God helps us do everything. We can tell God our worries and turn to him because he's powerful. Let's sing "Love and Pray."**

Begin the CD again, and lead children in singing "Love and Pray" (Matthew 5:44) (track 4 on the CD). Encourage children to join you in repeating the verses.

 **And he says,**
Love, love, love your enemies.
Love, love, love your enemies.
Pray, pray, pray for those who persecute you.
(Repeat.)

This love is surprising.
This love is unique.
This love comes from Jesus.
Let us hear him speak.

And he says,
Love, love, love your enemies.
Love, love, love your enemies.
Pray, pray, pray for those who persecute you.





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Pray, pray, pray for those who persecute you.
Pray, pray, pray for those who persecute you.
Pray, pray, pray for those who persecute you.

"Love and Pray" (Matthew 5:44) by Rob Biagi. © 2004 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

2 KEY VERSE ACTIVITY

Weight of Worries

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Have the children form a circle and sit down. Open your Bible to Philippians 4:6-7, and show the children the words.

Say: **Our Key Verse from the Bible says, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." That means to tell God your worries. Let's say that together.** Lead children in repeating the adapted Key Verse with you several times: **Tell God your worries.**

Today we'll learn about a little boy named David who beat a big giant named Goliath.

Ask:

- What do you think giants look like?
- If you saw a giant, would you be afraid? Why or why not?

Say: **When we think of giants, we may think of big, scary people. But sometimes our giants aren't people—sometimes hard or scary times feel like giants. Maybe one of your giant worries is being afraid of the dark, not having a friend to play with, or learning how to ride that two-wheel bike.**

Have children each share one giant—a worry or thing they're afraid of. Then hold up a small 3-pound hand weight.



Weight of Worries Supplies

Bible
3-pound hand weight





Theo's News Supplies

CD player
Surprise Box (any box
will do)
Theo puppet
small stone
Teacher Pack
CD: "Here, Theo" (track
2)

Theo's News Easy Prep

Place the small stone in
the Surprise Box, and
hide the box where it's
easily accessible.

Say: **At times, we all have giant worries or things we're afraid of. That's why we can tell God our worries and he will help us be strong to fight those giants. But do you know what? God helps us do everything. God always strengthens us, so we can do all things! Isn't God great?**

Have each of the children repeat their "giants" or worries as they lift the weight, and then have kids say the Key Verse together: Tell God your worries.

3

BIBLE EXPLORATION

Theo's News

What You'll Do

Say: **Friends, it's time for Theo's News!** Have the children sit in a circle. Then begin "Here, Theo" (track 2 on the CD). When the CD segment ends, bring out the Surprise Box, and put the Theophilus the FaithRetriever puppet on your hand. Then follow along with the script.

Theo: Hi, everybody!

Teacher: Hello, Theo! Tell us what interesting news you've dug up about our Bible story.

Theo: I hid it in the Surprise Box.

Teacher: Let's look inside to see what Theo found for us today.

(Choose a child to open the Surprise Box, and have the kids pass the stone around the circle so the rest of the class can see it up close. Give the children time to guess what the Bible story might be about.)

Teacher: Theo, why did you hide such a small stone in the Surprise Box?

Theo: Well, in today's Bible story, God used a small stone in a great big way.

Teacher: Kids, what could you do with a small stone?

(Pause to allow kids to answer your question.)

Theo: God can use small people and small stones to do very big and very difficult things.

Teacher: Let's find out how God helped a small boy named David fight a big giant using only one small stone!

Theo: Have fun, boys and girls!

Teacher: Say goodbye to Theo.

Encourage the children to wave or say goodbye to Theo. Then put Theo away in a safe place for next week's use.



Bible Time

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Have half of the kids sit on one side of the room and the other half sit on the other side. Use masking tape to mark a “battle line” between the two groups. Sit on the battle line between the two groups.

Open your Bible to 1 Samuel 17, and show the children the words.

Say: **When God chose a young boy named David to be the next king, God wasn't looking at the outside. God was looking at the inside of David's heart. Today's Bible story tells us that ► GOD CAN HELP YOU DO GREAT THINGS like David did.** Have kids repeat the Bible Point. **Let's find out how God helped David do great things as David was growing up.**

Motion to half of the kids and say that they are David's people—the Israelites. Motion to the other half and say they are the Philistines—Israel's enemy.

Choose one child to be Goliath. Choose another child to be David and another to be King Saul. Have King Saul wear the Paper Crown from the Teacher Pack.

Say: **David's people were called the Israelites.** Have the Israelites stand up, cheer, and then sit back down.

The Israelites' enemies (enemies are bullies!) were called the Philistines. Have the Philistines stand up, cheer, and then sit back down.

The Israelites and the Philistines were fighting each other. Have both sides rush to the battle line and growl at each other.

However, the Israelites were afraid of the Philistines. Have the Israelites back away from the Philistines as the Philistines growl again.

The Philistines had a huge, scary giant named Goliath on their side! Have Goliath come to the battle line, growl the loudest, and then go back with the other Philistines.

Goliath was a big, strong fighter who was over 9 feet tall! That's about as big as three of you stacked up on top of each other! Every day Goliath came to the battle line and shouted, “Come out, come out, wherever you are!” Have Goliath come to the battle line and repeat the phrase.

Goliath said that if the Israelites won the battle, the Philistines would be their slaves. Have the Philistines laugh at the Israelites. **Then Goliath said that if the Philistines won, David and his people would be their slaves.** Have the Israelites run even farther away from the line and tremble.



Bible Time Supplies

Bible
masking tape
Teacher Pack
Paper Crown



Say: **One day, David came to check on his brothers.** Have David wave. **Goliath began to shout again, “Come out, come out, wherever you are!”** Have Goliath repeat the phrase. **The Israelites trembled in fear.** Have the Israelites tremble. **And the Philistines laughed.** Have the Philistines laugh.

But David said, “This is crazy! I’ll fight Goliath myself!” Have David repeat the phrase. **This made the Philistines laugh even harder.** Have the Philistines laugh louder.

But David went to tell Saul, who was the king at that time. Have David bow before Saul. **King Saul told David, “You can’t fight Goliath! You’re only a little boy!”** Have Saul repeat the phrase. **Still, David insisted, because he knew that God would help him do great things. And so he set out to fight Goliath.**

Goliath carried three weapons! Have Goliath pretend to hold up weapons as you have the Philistines cheer. **David simply picked up five smooth stones and put them in a bag.** Have David pretend to put five stones in a bag; have the Israelites tremble.

David shouted, “I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty!” Have David stand near the battle line and shout the phrase. **David took out one stone and threw it at Goliath. Goliath fell down with a crash!** Have David pretend to throw a stone; have Goliath fall to the ground.

The Israelites cheered. Have the Israelites cheer. **The Philistines trembled.** Have the Philistines tremble. **And David won the battle, proving God can help each of us do great things!**

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- How would you feel if you were David facing Goliath?
- Do you think Goliath was afraid of David? Why or why not?

Say: **David was brave. He knew God would help him beat the giant Goliath. ► GOD CAN HELP YOU DO GREAT THINGS, too. No matter how giant our worries seem, God makes us strong.**

4 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

Choose at least two of the learning centers to help reinforce today’s Bible lesson. Gather the needed materials, and put the supplies in an out-of-sight area until you’re ready for them. Allow the children to choose which center they’d like to explore first. Then circulate among the children as they create and explore. Encourage them to make connections between their activities and the Bible by asking them the questions included with each center’s description.



CENTER 1:

Little Giants

What You'll Do

Distribute the Lesson 10 pages from My Bible Playground and let kids write their names on the pages.

Say: **David picked up five smooth stones and put them in his bag. It took only one of those stones to knock out Goliath the giant. In a moment, I'd like each of you to count out five pebbles and glue them in the bag on your page. Then use the markers to draw one of your giants—a big worry or something you're afraid of—on your page. For example, maybe you're afraid of a bully, or maybe you're afraid of a big dog. Draw it on your page.**

Help the children count out five pebbles each, and then allow time for them to complete their pages.

Talk With Kids

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What worry feels like a giant to you?
- How does praying to God help you beat your giant?

Say: **Prayer is the best weapon we can use to fight our worries. When we ask God for help, he will always make us strong! If we tell God our worries, he will help us.**

► **GOD CAN HELP YOU DO GREAT THINGS.**

CENTER 2:

Rocks

What You'll Do

Set the pre-measured ingredients off to the side. Have the children wash their hands (or use wet wipes) before preparing the snack.

Say: **David collected five rocks to use in his slingshot. One rock was all it took to defeat the mighty Goliath because God helped David do a great thing. Today, we are going to make rice cereal "rocks" for our snack to remind us that God can help us do great things.**



Center 1: Little Giants Supplies

My Bible Playground
pebbles
glue sticks
markers

Center 1: Little Giants Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 10 pages from each My Bible Playground student book.

Center 2: Rocks Supplies

cake pan
margarine
marshmallows
rice cereal
mixing spoon

Center 2: Rocks Easy Prep

Pre-measure the ingredients for rice cereal treats (see recipe on cereal box). If you have more than 16 kids, consider doubling the recipe.

ALLERGY ALERT



Center 3: Down With One Throw Supplies

blocks
newspaper

Divide the ingredients between the children so that each child has a chance to place something in the pan. For instance, one child could measure the margarine, one child could scrape it into the pan, several children could pour in the marshmallows and rice cereal, and everyone could take a turn stirring. Then have children butter their hands and roll out five small “rocks” each. Have them clean their hands, and invite one child to pray for the snack.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- Why wasn't David afraid of Goliath?
- Who can help you do great things?

Say: **David trusted that God would take care of him and help him defeat the mighty Goliath. We can trust God to help us do great things, too.**

■ CENTER 3:

Down With One Throw

What You'll Do ■■■■

Have kids form pairs.

Say: **Work with your partner and stack blocks to make a giant, like Goliath. Build your “giant” as high as you can.**

Once pairs have built their giants, have both partners take five steps away from their giant. Have kids crumple up newspaper to make “stones” to throw at the giant. Have each of the partners say today's Key Verse and then throw the paper stones.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- How did you feel when you knocked over the giants?
- How do you think David felt when he beat Goliath?

Say: **God helped a little guy named David use one stone to make a great big giant fall to the ground. David saved the Israelites because God helped him. ► GOD CAN HELP YOU DO GREAT THINGS, too!**





CENTER 4:

A Giant Help

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Inflate and tie off two balloons for each child. Set out colored permanent markers. Have children each use the markers to draw an ugly giant's face on one of their balloons; a giant might have yellow teeth and green hair. As children draw, have them blow on the markings so the color dries and doesn't come off on their clothes or hands.

Say: **If we tell God our worries, he gives us strength to face our worries and fears. Pretend your balloon is a giant worry or fear. Sometimes our friends can help us be strong when we have worries and fears. Trade your balloon with someone else. When you hear the music, bat the balloon in the air; when the music stops, sit on the balloon and pop that giant!**

Play "Happy, Lively Music" (track 18 on the CD) for one minute. Then stop the music. Listen to the balloons pop and the giants disappear!

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What was the scariest part of the giant you drew?**
- **What was it like for someone else to pop your giant? What was it like for you to pop someone else's?**
- **What's one way we can help others be strong when they have worries or fears?**

Give each child another balloon. This time have kids draw David faces on their balloons, and tie a string to each one. Encourage children to take home their "Davids" and use them to retell the Bible story to their families.

Say: **God wants us to help each other be strong. We can pray for each other. When we feel other people's love around us, it helps our worries seem not quite so big and scary. Pray for your friends this week!**



Center 4: A Giant Help Supplies

CD player
2 balloons per child
colored permanent markers
string
scissors
Teacher Pack
CD: "Happy, Lively Music" (track 18)

BALLOON WARNING

To avoid choking hazards, be sure to pick up pieces of any broken balloons promptly. Balloons may contain latex.





Daily Challenges Supplies

My Bible Playground

5 LASTING IMPRESSIONS

Daily Challenges

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

After the children have cleaned up the centers, sit with kids in a circle on the floor. Review the lesson activities and the Bible Point, and then encourage the children to share what they enjoyed learning from the Bible today.

Also use this time to challenge kids in their faith. Encourage them to choose a Daily Challenge for applying today's lesson to their lives this week. Use this challenge to encourage your children's growing relationships with Jesus.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Say: Today we learned that ► **GOD CAN HELP YOU DO GREAT THINGS.** I'd like each of you to choose one of these Daily Challenges to think about how you can rely on God to help you.

Give kids these three Daily Challenge ideas to choose from:

1. Choose a special rock from outside and paint it with a friend. As you paint, tell your friend how God used David to do great things.
2. Ask your mom or dad to help you measure each person in your family. Tell your family how God used David to do something great even though he was small and that God can use you to do great things, too!
3. Before you go to bed, pray and ask God to show you the great things he wants you to do each day this week.

Say: If you want to choose a special rock, circle choice number 1. If you want to measure your family, circle choice number 2. If you want to pray before bed, circle choice number 3. Check that each child circled a choice on his or her My Bible Playground page. Make sure you tell kids the challenge you choose. Your commitment will inspire children and will give them an opportunity to see God at work in your life as well as in theirs!

My Giant Prayer

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Have kids think of big problems in their lives. Tell them that during the prayer, they can act like giants as they tell God their worries.

Dear God,

Thank you for helping us do great things! Help us not to be afraid of big worries, such as... (Have children take turns saying things that are big worries in their lives.)

We're so glad that you make us strong, like David! In Jesus' name, amen.





Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their My Bible Playground book pages whether they worked on them or not. Have the children tell their parents the challenge they committed to in the “Daily Challenges” activity. Encourage parents to help their kids fulfill this commitment throughout the week. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at group.com/digital.



