

DAVID DEFEATED GOLIATH

1 SAMUEL 17



CHRIST CONNECTION: God sent David to help the Israelites. God sent His Son, Jesus, to help all of us. When we trust in Jesus, we have life with God forever.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: LORD, no one is like You. You are great. Jeremiah 10:6

BABIES GOSPEL GEMS

- God's people, the Israelites, and the Philistines were getting ready to fight.
- David took food to his brothers in the army and got mad when he heard the giant, Goliath, yelling.
- David fought Goliath with a sling and five smooth stones. With God's help, David won the battle.

BIBLE STORY FOR TODDLERS: Two big groups of soldiers were getting ready to fight. God's people, the Israelites, stood on a hill, and their enemies, the Philistines, stood on another hill. The Philistines had a big soldier named Goliath who was as tall as a tree! For 40 days, Goliath yelled at the Israelites to send someone to fight him. The Israelites were scared. One day, David brought food to his brothers in the Israelite army. He heard Goliath yelling and got mad. David said, "I'll fight Goliath!" Saul was worried because David was just a boy. David took his sling and five smooth stones to fight Goliath. David said, "God will help me!" Then he threw a stone at Goliath. Goliath fell down and didn't get up. David won the battle.



LEARNING Activities

Engage babies in the following activities during the session. In each activity, provide handheld Bibles for babies to handle. Open a Bible to 1 Samuel 17. Show the Bible Story Poster as you say the gospel gems in a soothing voice. Read the Key Passage Phrase Card. Pray for the babies.

1 SING A SONG

Sit babies in horseshoe-shaped pillows. Provide smooth river rocks (adult use only) for leaders to hold as babies use toy mallets, drumsticks, or unsharpened pencils to tap on the rocks. Sing to the tune of “For He’s a Jolly Good Fellow” as babies play. Monitor closely to ensure safety.

“LORD, there is no one like You.
There is no one like You.
There is no one like You.
LORD, You are great!”

SAY “Is anyone as great as God? No! Our key passage phrase says, ‘LORD, there is no one like You. You are great.’”

2 FEEL SLING-LIKE LEATHER PIECES

Place the Bible Story Poster on the floor with several leather cording pieces and leather fabric scraps laying on top. Sit babies in leaders’ laps or in horseshoe-shaped pillows. Hand the babies pieces of leather. Explain that David’s sling was likely made of leather. Allow the babies to feel the leather and to pull it off the picture. Show the Bible Story Poster, pointing to David, Goliath, and even the stones in the picture as you read the gospel gems.

SAY “Who did God send to help the Israelites? David! With God’s help, David used a sling and five stones to defeat Goliath.”

3 SHAKE THE STONES

Gather clear, plastic bottles (one per baby); duct tape; and small stones or aquarium rocks (five per bottle). Before babies arrive, place the stones in the bottles, and replace the lids. Seal the lids with duct tape. Sit babies in leaders’ laps or in horseshoe-shaped pillows. Provide each baby with a bottle. Count each stone and demonstrate how to shake the bottles as you read the gospel gems. For babies who are more sensitive to sound, use pom-poms in the bottles instead of stones. Monitor safety as babies shake the bottles.

SAY “David heard the Philistine giant yelling at God’s people, and David got mad. David fought Goliath with a sling and five smooth stones. Did God help David win? Yes! With God’s help, David won the battle.”

Check diapers, serve bottles if needed, and release babies to parents according to your church’s security guidelines. Give parents today’s Big Picture Card. Repeat the Christ Connection, gospel gems, and Bible-learning activities for babies who stay a second hour.



LEARNING Activities

Engage toddlers in the following activities. In each activity, show the Bible Story Poster as you review the Bible story. Provide small Bibles for toddlers to handle.

1 CIRCLE TIME

Open your Bible to 1 Samuel 17. Show the Bible Story Poster as you tell the provided toddlers' Bible story. Read the Key Passage Phrase Card, and guide toddlers to say it with you. Pray for the toddlers.

2 PAINT ROCKS WITH WATER

Lay five smooth 3- to- 4-inch rocks on top of a towel. Provide cups filled halfway with water and paintbrushes for the toddlers. Instruct toddlers to dip the brushes in the water and “paint” the rocks. While they work, explain how David used five rocks and one sling to battle against Goliath. Review the Bible story as the toddlers paint. Monitor closely to ensure safety.

SAY “Who did God send to help the Israelites? Yes, David! God sent David with five stones and a sling to help the Israelites, but God sent His Son, Jesus, to help all of us. When we trust in Jesus, we have life with God forever.”

3 PACK A BASKET OF FOOD

Display a picnic basket and toy foods. Call on a toddler to help you pack the basket with food. Review the Bible story as the toddler places food in the basket. Remind the toddlers that David took food to his brothers while they were getting ready to fight. Help the toddler carry the basket to another toddler. Unpack and repack the basket as time permits. Retell the story.

SAY “David thought he was only bringing his brothers food. But God had bigger plans for David. God helped David defeat the enemies! Does God have big plans for you too? Yes, God has a special plan for each of us! When we trust in Jesus, we have life with God forever!”

4 PLAY A TALL AND SHORT GAME

Print and cut apart the “Tall and Short Game Cards” printable. Stack the cards upside down in the middle of the room. Tape the pictures of David and Goliath on opposite sides of the room. Turn over a card and show toddlers. Instruct toddlers to move to Goliath's picture if the object is tall and to David's picture if the item is short. Play until all cards have been used.

SAY “Were the Israelites afraid of Goliath? Yes! They were afraid of Goliath, who was as tall as a tree! But David trusted God to help him. When we trust in Jesus, we have life forever with God.”

5 SCOOP AND UNCOVER

Gather a plastic bin and shredded paper. Place the Bible Story Poster in the bottom of the tub and cover with the paper. Provide measuring cups and plastic bowls. Encourage toddlers to scoop and uncover the picture as they play. Replay as interest allows. Review the Bible story.

SAY “We uncovered the picture! Do you see David using his sling and stone to defeat Goliath? David used a sling and five stones, but David trusted God to help him. We can trust God too!”

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1 TRANSITION ACTIVITY: READ BOOKS ABOUT DAVID

Gather several board books about David and Goliath. Sit with a toddler on your lap, and invite him to read books with you. Let him choose a book. Read the book aloud, and point to the pictures as you read. Comment on what you see.

SAY “ God sent David to help the Israelites defeat Goliath and the Philistines. God helped David win the battle! ”

2 SING TO A FAMILIAR TUNE

Sing to the tune of “For He’s a Jolly Good Fellow”:

“LORD, there is no one like You. (Cross your hands back and forth in front of you.)

There is no one like You. (Cross your hands back and forth in front of you.)

There is no one like You. (Cross your hands back and forth in front of you.)

LORD, You are great!” (Punch your fist in the air on “LORD,” “You,” and “Great.”)

3 MAKE STONE ART

Cut 2- to- 3-inch stone shapes (five per toddler) from gray and brown construction paper. Write the key passage phrase on a sheet of construction paper (one per toddler). Invite toddlers to glue the “stones” on their papers. Count as each stone is placed on the paper.

SAY “ David defeated Goliath with five stones and a sling. Did David defeat Goliath on his own? No! God helped him defeat Goliath! God helped us, too, when He sent His Son, Jesus. ”

4 COMPARE HEIGHTS

Invite one toddler to stand with her back against the wall. Measure and cut a piece of yarn from her head to her heel. Write the toddler’s name on a piece of tape, and attach it to the end of the yarn. Repeat for all toddlers. Invite toddlers to use their yarn to compare their heights to other toddlers and to items around the room. Comment, “You are taller than the chair!” or “You are shorter than the door.” Replay as interest allows. Retell the Bible story.

SAY “ David was smaller than Goliath. David trusted God to help him. Does God help us? Yes! God sent His Son, Jesus, to help us. When we trust Him, He gives us life forever! And that is big! ”

Check diapers, serve a snack if needed, and release toddlers to parents according to your church’s security procedures. Give parents today’s Big Picture Card to reinforce today’s Bible story, Christ Connection, or gospel gems throughout the week.