

From Shepherd to King

Week 11



Big Idea: You really can't judge a book by its cover, but when you open it and start reading you will learn the real story.

Key Verse: 1 Samuel 16:7

But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

Living Faith

How could a teenager defeat the greatest warrior of his era? Two words: God's power. David trusted God to give him the strength to defeat Goliath. He knew he couldn't defeat the ultimate soldier in his own power; David needed supernatural power, not to mention great aim.

Goliath was decked out in more than 125 pounds of armor. David probably weighed just a little more than that. Goliath had a 15-pound spear. David had five smooth stones. Odds were David would end up as a shish kebab. Instead, Goliath ended up on his back.

Have your family practice its aim by playing this game. Collect eight to ten 2-liter plastic bottles. Put a couple of inches of water in the bottom of each bottle for stability and set them up as bowling pins. If you're playing the game inside, take turns throwing a pillow at the pins. Each person gets one throw. Count how many pins are knocked down. If you play outside, take turns kicking a soccer ball at the pins. Play several rounds, keep a running score, and declare a winner.

When you're finished, talk about the difficulty of knocking down the pins. Now think about how difficult it would've been for David to sling a stone into Goliath's forehead. According to historians, military equipment was pretty advanced at this time. Goliath most likely wore a helmet with a thin slit or visor. The giant probably underestimated David and didn't lower his visor or failed to wear a helmet. With God's help, David made a perfect shot to give Israel the victory. Ask:

Do you think people still underestimate God's power today?

What are some ways to show God's power to the people around you?

Extra Mile

This week's story has made it into the English lexicon, especially when it comes to sports. Announcers love to talk about a David versus Goliath scenario as an underdog team faces a seemingly unbeatable opponent. The NCAA men's basketball tournament, better known as March Madness, is famous for its upsets. Watch a video of one of the most well-known David-like victories: The 1985 finals featuring Georgetown and Villanova.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=woDd5erJtbQ.

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