

Bible Point ▶

God Is With Us

Bible Verse

God is with us (adapted from Joshua 1:9c).

Growing Closer to Jesus

- Children will
- learn that David loved God,
 - realize that God is with them all the time, and
 - express their thankfulness for God's presence.



Teacher Enrichment

Bible Basis

- **God is with us all the time.**

**1 Samuel
17:1-50**



When we think of David slaying Goliath, we tend to think, “Wow, what a miraculous thing that was.” And truly it was a miracle of God’s presence and power. However, if we begin to think that God is only interested in helping us with Goliath-size problems, we’ll miss out on the wonderful provision God makes for us day by day.

He’s not only concerned about our Goliaths, but about our Brandons and our Amys and our Heathers and our Jareds. He’s there to help us with the little trials and struggles that come our way. He’s concerned about the people we connect with each day, and definitely about the little ones we teach. And he’s willing to offer us God-size power to deal with those problems if we’ll rely on him as David did.

As you reflect on this story, also reflect on how fully you acknowledge God’s presence in your life all the time. Don’t just trust him for the big things—let him work in the little things of your life as well!

Prayer

- Read Joshua 1:9.
- If you really lived in acknowledgement that God was with you all the time, how would your life be different?
- What little things do you need to give to him right now?
- Pray: God, help me live my life in your presence, so that my toddlers will see my example of trust and faith. Help me to...

Before the Lesson

- Collect items for the activities you plan to use, referring to the Classroom Supplies and Learning Lab Supplies listed in the chart on the next page.
- Pray for the children in your class and for God’s direction in teaching the lesson.

This Lesson at a Glance

	What Children Will Do	Classroom Supplies	Learning Lab Supplies
Arrival Activities Direct children to one or more of the optional activities until everyone arrives.	Welcome Time —Receive a warm welcome from the teacher and Cuddles the Lamb.	Name tags (p. 8), marker, tape or safety pins, CD player	
	Option 1: Day and Night —Crawl through dark tunnels, and learn that God is with us day and night.	Large boxes, masking tape	
	Option 2: Stick-to-Me Shadows —Take turns making shadow shapes on the wall.	White bedsheet, flashlights	
	Pick-Up Time —Sing a song as they help clean up the room.	CD player	
Bible Story Time	Bible Song —Sing a song about the Bible.	Bible, CD player	
	God Is With Us —Interact with sensory items on the StoryBoard as they hear the story of David from 1 Samuel 17:1-50.	Bible, round cereal puffs, CD player, sling from Lesson 10	
	“God Is With Us” Song —Sing an action song about David and Goliath.	CD player	
Bible Activities	Interactive Bible Bulletin Board —Review the Bible story with Cuddles the Lamb as they create a bulletin board together.	God’s soldiers patterns (p. 147), Goliath pattern (p. 160), scissors, tape, scarf	
	Sing It Out —Sing an action song about David and Goliath.	CD player	
	Bible Craft —Make giant, funny feet to wear.	Funny-feet patterns (p. 147), stiff paper, scissors, tape, markers	
	Bible Game —Use an interactive poster to play a fun game and remember the Bible Point.	Tape, scissors	
	Giant Bananas —Say a prayer, and have a snack.	Bananas, small bowls, napkins, mini chocolate chips	

*See the end of this lesson for extra-time ideas and supplies.

Arrival Activities

Welcome Time

SUPPLIES: name tags (p. 8), marker, tape or safety pins, CD player



- Play “God Is With Us” (adapted from Joshua 1:9c) (track 9) from the *CD* as children are arriving.
- Use Cuddles the Lamb to help you greet each child by name and with a warm smile.
- Tape or pin a name tag to each child’s clothing.
- Say: **Today we’re going to learn that ► God is with us.**
- Place Cuddles out of sight so the children won’t be distracted by him during the next activity.

teacher tips

It’s important to say the Bible Point just as it’s written in each activity. Repeating the Bible Point over and over throughout the lesson will help kids remember it and apply it to their lives.



Option 1: Day and Night

SUPPLIES: large boxes, masking tape

Before class, set out several boxes large enough for children to play in. Open both ends of each box and tape the boxes end to end to create a long, dark tunnel for children to crawl through. If boxes aren’t available, drape blankets over chairs and tables to create a tunnel.

As children arrive, invite them to crawl in and out of the tunnel. Point out that it’s dark like nighttime inside the tunnel and light like daytime outside the tunnel. Remind children that ► God is with us all the time—day and night.



Option 2: Stick-to-Me Shadows

SUPPLIES: white bedsheet, flashlights

Before class, hang a white bedsheet or a large sheet of white poster board on the wall. Place a few flashlights below the sheet.

As children come in, invite them to have fun making shadows on the sheet with the flashlights. Be sure children take turns being the flashlight holders and the shadow makers. Point out that our shadows stay with us wherever we go. Explain that ► God is with us all the time, too. Encourage children to tell about the shadow shapes they make, and lead each child in repeating the Bible Point at the end of his or her turn.



teacher tips

If you use tables in your classroom, make sure they’re child-sized. Forcing children to work at adult-sized tables can cause spills, messes, and even accidents.

Pick-Up Time

SUPPLIES: CD player



As Arrival Activities draw to a close, gently mention that it will soon be time to clean up. Encourage children to help you pick up things in the room as you lead them in singing “Let’s Pick Up All Our Things” (track 2). Use the *CD* and sing the song to the tune of “Looby Loo.”

**SING**

Let's pick up all our things.
 Let's pick up all our things.
 Let's pick up all our things
 And put them all away.

Everyone here can help.
 Everyone here can help.
 Everyone here can help.
 Let's put it all away.

Let's pick up all our things.
 Let's pick up all our things.
 Let's pick up all our things.
 It's time to stop our play.

Bible Story Time

■ Bible Song

SUPPLIES: Bible, CD player

**BIBLE POINT** ▶

track 3

Say: **Who is always with us?** ▶ *God is with us.* How do we know that? **The Bible tells us.** Show children the Bible. **The Bible is God's special book. The Bible tells us about God. Let's sing a song about the Bible.** Using the CD, lead children in singing "God's Special Book" (track 3) to the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat."

**SING**

This is God's special book.
 Yes, it's God's book you see!
 I learn about all God has done
 And his love for me!

(Repeat.)

Bible!



■ Bible Story: God Is With Us

SUPPLIES: Bible, round cereal puffs, CD player, sling from Lesson 10

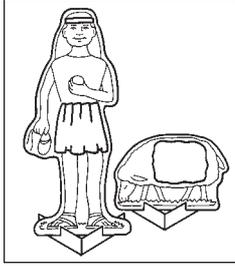


track 10



Before class begins, please check to make sure the sensory items are still attached securely to the StoryBoard figures so the children can touch them without danger of pulling the items off or putting them into their mouths.

Scene 1



Lay the figure of Goliath on the floor. Place the sling you made in Lesson 10 and the punch-out figures of David, the sheep, and the five stones beside you. You'll also need a bag of round cereal puffs. Have children wash their hands.

Say: **We're going to hear an exciting Bible story today, and we'll learn that ►God is with us.** Hold up the figure of David. **This is David. Let's tell David "hello."** Pass the figure of David to each child. Encourage children to touch David's robe

and headband as they say, "Hello, David."

David loved God, and God loved David, too. David had seven brothers, but he was the youngest and smallest. Even though David was small, he had a big job! Oh, listen! What can that sound be?

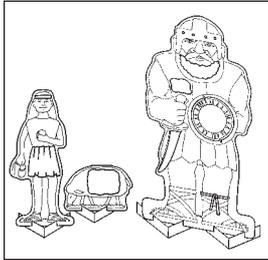
Turn on the CD player and listen to the "Sheep Sounds" segment of the CD (track 10); then turn off the CD player.

Ask: • **What animal makes that sound?** (A sheep.)

Set out the punch-out sheep. Say: **David watched the sheep in his father's field. We can pat one of David's sheep.** Let each child touch the fluffy sheep. **David loved his father, and he loved the sheep. But most of all, David loved God. He loved God more than anything! But there was someone who didn't love God. Let's see who that mean man was.**



Scene 2



Place the figure of Goliath in front of the children.

Say: **Ooo, look at the giant. His name is Goliath. Can you say that? Go-li-ath. Goliath was a big, mean guy who didn't love God. Let's stand up and say a fun rhyme about Goliath.** Lead children in the following action rhyme.

Tall (stretch up tall with your arms in the air),
Short (bend low to the floor),
Or in between (stand in your regular stance)—
The giant, Goliath, was big and mean! (Make a mean, growly face.)

Goliath was really a mean guy! Let's touch some of the things on Goliath. Have children find and touch one or more of the following items on the figure of Goliath:

- his beard,
- the lace on Goliath's sandal,
- his helmet,
- his robe, and
- his shield.

Say: **Goliath didn't love God. Goliath's people and God's people were at war. Every day Goliath stomped back and forth and shook his sword and yelled mean things about God's people. That made David angry. All of God's soldiers were afraid of Goliath—but David wasn't afraid. David knew that ►God is with us, and he knew that God would help him fight Goliath. Do you think David won the fight? Let's find out!**





BIBLE POINT ▶



Important: After the Bible Story, put the StoryBoard figures away out of reach of children.



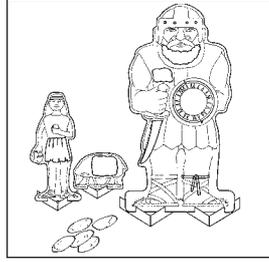
BIBLE POINT ▶



BIBLE POINT ▶

BIBLE VERSE ▶

Scene 3



Hold up the figure of David. Say: **David knew that Goliath was big, but David knew that God is bigger than anything or anyone! And David knew that ▶God is with us. Let's clap for God!** Lead children in a rousing round of applause.

David went to a stream and picked up five smooth stones. Hold up the punch-out stones and have children count them aloud with you. **One, two, three, four, five.**

We can each have five pretend stones to count. Hand each child five round cereal puffs. Count the cereal “stones” together a few times, and then let children gobble up their pretend stones.

David took a stone and put it in his sling. Place a punch-out stone in the sling. **David walked up to Goliath and said, “Goliath, you think you’re big and strong with that shiny sword. But God is bigger than you or anyone else! ▶God is with us, and he will win this fight!”**

Then David threw the stone and it hit Goliath. Bonk! It hit him in the forehead! Goliath fell facedown on the ground. Tip over the figure of Goliath face-first. **David won the battle because ▶God is with us! Yea! Let's clap for God!** Lead children in clapping.

Even though David was small, David's love for God was this big! Stretch your arms out wide. **And David knew that God is with us.** Open your Bible to **Joshua 1:9c**, and show children the words. **Let's sing a special song to remind us of our Bible verse: ▶God is with us.**

■ “God Is With Us” Song

SUPPLIES: CD player



Using the CD, lead the children in singing “God Is With Us” (adapted from Joshua 1:9c) to the tune of “The Farmer in the Dell.” For extra fun, do the motions in parentheses.



Goliath stood so tall. (*Stand on your tiptoes.*)

David was so small. (*Squat down.*)

Clap your hands and turn around (*clap twice; then turn around*)—
God is with us all! (*March in place.*)

David trusted God. (*Cross your arms over your chest.*)

He made Goliath fall. (*Crouch down.*)

Clap your hands and turn around (*clap twice; then turn around*)—
God is with us all! (*March in place.*)

God is with us all. (*March in place.*)

God is with us all. (*March in place.*)

Clap your hands and turn around (*clap twice; then turn around*)—
God is with us all! (*March in place.*)



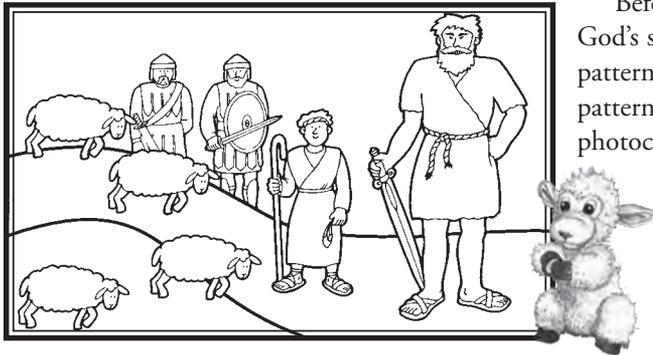
Say: Isn't it great that ► *God is with us*? God loves us and is with us all the time. God loves us so much that he sent his Son, Jesus, to be our friend. If we are friends with Jesus, we will live with him in heaven someday. That's a lot of love!

David learned that God is with us all the time and that he never leaves us alone. Even though God's people were afraid of Goliath, David wasn't afraid because he knew that God helps us. Let's put pictures of Goliath and God's people on the bulletin board.

Bible Activities

Interactive Bible Bulletin Board

SUPPLIES: God's soldiers patterns (p. 147), Goliath pattern (p. 160), scissors, tape, scarf



Before class, photocopy the God's soldiers patterns. Cut out the patterns. Be sure there's a soldier pattern for each child. Make one photocopy of the Goliath pattern.



Bring out Cuddles the Lamb wearing a scarf over his head. Go through the following puppet script, and then put Cuddles away out of sight.

Cuddles: (Shivering under his scarf) Ooo, ooo!

Teacher: Is that you, Cuddles? That's a funny way to wear a scarf. Is something wrong?

Cuddles: (Still shaking) Ooo, is it gone?

Teacher: Is what gone?

Cuddles: That big guy from the story. He's about as big as the moon!

Teacher: Oh, Cuddles. I think you have a big imagination! Here, let's take this scarf off. (Helps Cuddles take off his scarf.)

Cuddles: Well, I guess I don't have to be afraid. You're here to take care of me.

Teacher: That's right! You don't have to be afraid, Cuddles. The big guy you saw from the story today was a giant named Goliath. Children, was David afraid of Goliath? (Lead children in saying "no.")

Cuddles: David wasn't afraid of a giant? Why not? I don't get it!

Teacher: Well, David knew that ► God is with us. God keeps us safe and never leaves us alone.

Cuddles: That's good to know! I'm glad that God is always with us!

Teacher: That's right, Cuddles, because God is bigger and stronger than anyone or anything. Would you like to help us put the soldiers from today's story on the bulletin board?

Cuddles: I sure would!

Have Cuddles hand each child a soldier cutout. Help children tape the soldiers near the sheep already placed on the left side of the bulletin board. Then attach the picture of Goliath on the right side of the board. Let children take turns pointing to the sheep and soldiers and repeating the Bible Point.

Teacher: I'm so happy that ► God is with us! Let's sing a happy song about God's presence.

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■ Sing It Out

SUPPLIES: CD player



Using the CD, lead the children in singing "God Is With Us" (adapted from Joshua 1:9c) to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell." For extra fun, do the motions in parentheses.



Goliath stood so tall. (Stand on your tiptoes.)

David was so small. (Squat down.)

Clap your hands and turn around (clap twice; then turn around)—

God is with us all! (March in place.)

David trusted God. (Cross your arms over your chest.)

He made Goliath fall. (Crouch down.)

Clap your hands and turn around (clap twice; then turn around)—

God is with us all! (March in place.)

God is with us all. (March in place.)

God is with us all. (March in place.)

Clap your hands and turn around (clap twice; then turn around)—

God is with us all! (March in place.)



BIBLE POINT ►

BIBLE POINT ►

Say: **David learned that ► God is with us. And God stayed with David everywhere he went—even when David faced Goliath! Let's make "funny feet" to remind us that ► God is with us all the time, wherever we go.**

■ Bible Craft

SUPPLIES: funny-feet patterns (p. 147), stiff paper, scissors, tape, markers

Before class, enlarge and photocopy the funny-feet patterns. Photocopy a pair of the enlarged patterns on stiff paper for each child. Cut out the patterns.

Set out markers and tape. Hand each child a pair of funny-feet cutouts. Say: **Think of the big feet Goliath must have had! We can make these giant funny feet to remind us that ►God is with us everywhere our feet take us.**

Encourage children to decorate their cutouts using markers. When children have finished, tape the funny feet to the tops of the children's shoes.

Say: **Let's play a walking game with our funny feet.**



■ Bible Game

SUPPLIES: scissors, tape



Before class, cut the "I'm Alive!" poster from the Learning Lab into fourths so each piece has one picture on it. Tape the four pictures around the room, just above the children's eye level.

Say: **We can play a fun game with our funny feet. When I say, "Goliath, walk to the green tree," find the picture of the green tree in the room and walk over to it. When you get to the picture, shout ►"God is with us!"**

Allow time for the children to walk to the different pictures around the room. If you have older toddlers, invite them to take turns being the Caller.

Ask: • **How did you know which picture to go to?** (You told me; I listened to the directions.)

• **How did David know how to win against Goliath?** (God told him what to do; he picked up stones; he listened to God.)

Say: **In our game just now, you had to listen closely to directions so you would know where to go. David listened to God, and God helped David. God was with David. Wherever we go, ►God is with us, too! Let's give God a big cheer to thank him for always being with us!** Lead children in clapping and cheering for God.

Now let's walk our funny feet over to the snack table for a special treat.



Closing

■ Giant Bananas

SUPPLIES: bananas, small bowls, napkins, mini chocolate chips

After they wash their hands, gather children at the table and ask:

• **Who is always with us?** (God.)

Say: **We've been learning that ►God is with us. And God is with us all the time, everywhere we go. Let's say a prayer and thank God for being with us. Fold your hands. Pray: Dear God, thanks for being with us wherever we go. We're glad you never leave us alone. We love you. In Jesus' name, amen.**



Set out small bowls of mini chocolate chips. Hand each child a napkin with half of a peeled banana on it. Say: **We're going to make yummy giants with these bananas. You can use chocolate chips to make your giant's eyes, nose, and mouth.** Show children how to carefully press the chocolate chips into their bananas for facial features. Then let children enjoy nibbling their "giants."

When children have finished, remind them to throw away their napkins. Have children wear their funny feet home.



For Extra Time

If you have a long class time or want to add additional elements to your lesson, try one of the following activities.

■ Sing a Song

Without using the CD, lead children in singing "God Is With Us" (adapted from Joshua 1:9c) to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell" For extra fun, do the motions in parentheses.



SING

Goliath stood so tall. (*Stand on your tiptoes.*)

David was so small. (*Squat down.*)

Clap your hands and turn around (*clap twice; then turn around*)—

God is with us all! (*March in place.*)

David trusted God. (*Cross your arms over your chest.*)

He made Goliath fall. (*Crouch down.*)

Clap your hands and turn around (*clap twice; then turn around*)—

God is with us all! (*March in place.*)

God is with us all. (*March in place.*)

God is with us all. (*March in place.*)

Clap your hands and turn around (*clap twice; then turn around*)—

God is with us all! (*March in place.*)

■ Stone's Roll



Form a circle on the floor. Let children roll the *rubber rock* from the Learning Lab back and forth around the circle. Each time a child receives the rock, lead him or her in saying the Bible Point. Remind children that God helped David use a stone to win the fight with Goliath.

Patterns

Cut loosely around the soldier patterns instead of cutting exactly on the outlines.

