

DAVID AND THE GIANT

Bible Basis: 1 Samuel 17:1–50

Bible Verse: “David said to Goliath, ‘... I’m coming against you in the name of the Lord who rules over all.’” —1 Samuel 17:45, NIV

Bible Point: God helped David be brave. God can make me brave, too.

Resource: *The Story for Little Ones*, Chapter 11: “David and the Giant”

STEP 1: COME TOGETHER

Stuff you need: 1 smooth rock for each child in your classroom (large enough for a craft project later)

Set all the rocks on the floor at the front of the classroom.

Say, “**Come up to the front and choose one rock; then take it with you and sit down.**”

Then ask:

- What made you choose one rock over another?
- Why do you like your rock?
- What kinds of things can you do with a rock? (*play a game, pretend it’s a pet, make a craft*)

Say, “**You chose your rocks for your own reasons. Today’s Bible story is about a young man who chose five rocks. God helped him do something amazing with one of those five rocks!**”

STEP 2: HEAR THE STORY

First, read aloud Chapter 11, “David and the Giant,” from *The Story for Little Ones*.

Follow the directions to present the following Bible story.

Every time you see (*), lead your class in saying, “God helped David be brave!” Practice with your class a few times.

“**Good-bye, Father!**” David called. David left his father’s house. He left his father’s sheep. He left his job of taking care of his father’s sheep. He left to go on a journey by himself. Going on a journey by yourself can be scary. Why wasn’t David scared? (*)

“Good-bye,” his father said. “Tell your brothers I said hello.”

David was taking food to his brothers. They were in the king's army. The army was made up of God's people. Perhaps large animals or other people would want the food that David was bringing to his brothers. Why wasn't David scared? (*)

When David reached the camp, he went to find his brothers. Just then a giant named Goliath appeared. "Who will fight me?" the giant shouted. No one answered him. The giant was big. The giant was mean. Why wasn't David scared? (*)

"Who does that bully think he is?" David asked. His older brothers became upset with him. Having people upset with you can be hard. Why wasn't David scared? (*)

"What have I done now?" David asked. "I just want to know who is going to fight the bully." When King Saul heard this, he sent for David. Going to see someone who is rich and powerful can be scary. Why wasn't David scared? (*)

"Don't worry," David told the king. "I'll fight the giant."

"You are too young," King Saul said. Sometimes people will put you down because you're young. Why wasn't David scared? (*)

"God saved me from a lion. God saved me from a bear. He can save me from a giant," David said.

"Okay," said King Saul. "May the Lord be with you." David was going to fight a giant. Why wasn't David scared? (*)

David found five smooth stones. He put them in his bag. He held a sling. The giant was angry. "I come in the name of the Lord," David shouted. "The battle belongs to the Lord." The giant was ready to fight David. Why wasn't David scared? (*)

David put a rock in his sling and threw it. The stone hit the giant in the forehead. The giant fell to the ground with a crash! David had beaten the giant! All God's people were so happy! They couldn't believe a boy went up against a giant—and won! How did David win? (*)

After the Bible story, ask:

- What was David's job? (*taking care of his father's sheep*)
- Why was he going to see his brothers? (*to take them food*)
- What was the giant's name? (*Goliath*)
- Why didn't anyone want to fight the giant? (*Everyone was scared of him.*)
- Why wasn't David scared? (*God helped David be brave.*)
- What are some things that make you feel scared?
- Who can help you be brave?

Say, "That's right! God helped David be brave. You can ask God to help you be brave, too. Let's pray that God will help us be brave in situations where we are scared."

STEP 3: EXPLORE MORE

Choose from these activity options to help children explore the lesson further.

OPTION 1: BRAVERY STONES

Stuff you need: Bravery Tags Activity Sheet, stones from earlier in the lesson, squares of fabric cut big enough to wrap up the stones, ribbons

Preparation: Photocopy enough Bravery Tags on colored card stock to tie on each Bravery Stone. Cut them out and punch the hole. If possible, laminate them.

Say, **"You are going to use your stone from story time to create a Bravery Stone. Put this stone on your nightstand by your bed to remind you that you can ask God to help you be brave when you are scared."**

Have children choose a fabric square and a ribbon length. Thread the Bravery Tag onto the ribbon. Place the rock in the center of the fabric square. Gather up the corners and tie the ribbon around the fabric, creating a little gift-like bundle.

OPTION 2: BIBLE VERSE MEMORIZATION

Help children memorize the Bible verse by acting it out:

I am (*Point to yourself.*)

Coming against (*Push a pretend wall in front of you.*)

You (*Point straight ahead.*)

In the name of the Lord (*Point up.*)

Who rules (*Point your index finger as if you are telling people to do things.*)

Over all. (*Fling your arms wide.*)

First (*Hold up one finger.*)

Samuel 17:45

Close by saying, **"God wants you to talk to him like David did. God can make you brave."**

OPTION 3: FIVE SMOOTH STONES

Stuff you need: Five Smooth Stones Activity Sheet, crayons

Give an activity sheet to each child.

Say, **"David picked out five small stones but used only one of them to beat a giant! He never could have done that in his own strength! He was only able to do that because God helped him be brave. Color the five stones however you'd like."**

Option 4: I Am Brave

Stuff you need: I Am Brave Activity Sheet, crayons

Give an activity sheet to each child. Have children share about times when they were brave (a thunderstorm, a car accident, a sick parent). Remind them that they can ask God to help them be brave. Have the children draw and color a picture of a time they were brave. Share their stories, and then have them take the pictures home.

Option 5: Sheep's Face

Stuff you need: paper plates, glue, white cotton balls, pink or red chenille craft stems for the sheep's mouth, large plastic eyes, pink and white felt, sharp adult scissors

Give each child a paper plate. Cover plate completely with glue. Attach cotton balls. The whole plate will be the sheep's face.

Glue on the eyes. Cut chenille stems into 2–3-inch sections. Have children bend the edges up to create a U for the sheep's smile, and glue it to the sheep. Cut pink triangles for the nose, and cut large white oblong shapes for the ears out of the felt. Attach the pieces and allow glue to dry.

STEP 4: GOING HOME

Before sending children home, give each a copy of *The Story Preschool Trading Card* 11. Say, **"The front of this card will remind you that God helped David be brave. Show your parents the back and tell them that you can ask God to help you be brave too."** Have them practice saying this before they leave.

As you are waiting for parents to pick up their children, use *The Story for Little Ones* or *The Story Preschool Trading Cards* to review past stories and Bible points.

Make sure each child takes home a copy of the Trading Card, Activity Sheet(s)/Crafts, and the Parents' Page.