

# DAVID KILLS GOLIATH

## Scripture:

**I Samuel 16:18, 17:1-58**

**Memory Verse:** Luke 16:10 *Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.*

## Materials Needed:

Flash-a-cards  
Picture of Valley of Elah  
Sling (kind used in ancient times)  
[Lyre](#) (if available)  
Tape measure

**Objectives:** As a result of this lesson, I want my students

**To Know:** that when David was keeping his sheep, he protected them by God's strength and enabling from a lion and a bear, and when it came time to protect God's honor and the people of Israel from Goliath, he went confidently by God's strength and enabling to fight and kill Goliath, thereby bringing great praise to God, advantages for his family, and a good name for himself.

**To Realize:** When one is faithful to rely on God in the unseen times, they will be prepared to rely on God for bigger things, thereby bringing great praise to God and a good name for themselves.

**To Respond:** by being faithful to rely on God and act courageously in the small things others don't see and courageously take hold of bigger situations for God's glory.

## Setting Up the Story—

Make two columns on the board. At the top write "BORING" and "EXCITING". Have your students tell you the top three things they think kids their age find BORING to do and the top three things kids their age find EXCITING to do. Make sure to include "chores" and "homework" on the boring list. (Show picture of Samuel with Jesse's family and David's older brothers.) If we were living during the time of Saul, certainly one of the most EXCITING things to do would be to be part of Saul's new army! (Write "fighting in army" under Exciting column. Then show picture of David in the fields, taking care of the sheep.) One of the most BORING jobs would be the one that David had—taking care of the sheep.

## Telling the Story—

Scripture:

I. David Fights a Lion and Bear

- A. Youngest in Family
- B. Watches Sheep
  - 1. "dirty job"
  - 2. boring

## As you tell the story—

(Imagine what it was like being out in the fields all day.)

If you were David, what would be going through your mind as you are out in the field all day?

C. Brothers off at War

Scripture:

D. David Risks Life for Sheep

1. If David wins, what does he get? Mangled sheep
2. If David loses, what does he get? He dies!

E. David Sees Opportunity as from God.

But David didn't waste his time. There were two things he did while he was WATCHING the sheep.

SHOW SLING and explain the practice it takes to get good at it!

SHOW HARP and explain that it was likely a "beginner's instrument" but that David got good at it.

Then one day, after David had already been anointed by Samuel, something exciting DID happen!

Why does David risk his life? Why is it worth it to him to go after the lion and the bear? Who is going to care about one lost sheep? Who is going to know?

But to David, this opportunity was from God. God was the one giving him courage and strength even when no one else was noticing.

II. David Fights Goliath

Scripture:

A. Visits Brothers

B. Hears Taunt of Goliath

C. Testifies to God's Help

1. in smaller battles with animals
2. in ways nobody saw

D. Kills Goliath

1. without Saul's armor
2. with a stone
3. with Goliath's sword

Storytell the details using the flash-a-cards

Then one day...

Use measuring tape to show students how tall Goliath is (9-1/2 to 10')

(Note: some pictures show a Goliath that is about 15-20' tall compared to David...point out that these visualizations have exaggerated a bit.)

Storytell about how David had not practiced with armor—what had he been doing all those long hours?

SLING! He had been faithful to practice when no one was watching, and now that everyone is watching, he is ready!

Why do you think David wants to take on Goliath? A lot more exciting than taking care of sheep, right? That's not his reason! All of a sudden he realizes—hey! This man isn't more dangerous than a lion or a bear, and I've already killed them with God's

Scripture:

- III. David is Rewarded
  - A. God is praised
  - B. Family is exempt from taxes
  - C. David earns a good name

help. I've been prepared to do this for God's glory and honor!

**Concluding the story:**

When David was taking care of sheep, do you think he ever imagined that he would be so popular that women would sing songs about him killing a giant? But what would have happened if David had said, "This is a boring job. I'm never going to be anyone great!" and he didn't do a good job?

Look at list of boring things on the board and point to "chores" and "homework." Why do you think God wants you to do a good job in the boring things of your life right now? He is preparing you for the work He has ahead of you. If you are lazy, or don't learn what you are supposed to when no one is watching, then you won't be ready for the job God has for you later.

Learn Memory Verse (either the whole thing or just the first part). Divide it into the two parts going back and forth, and use the Sandtimer method to teach it.

## DAVID KILLS GOLIATH HELPS FOR THE TEACHER

### **Personal Application Questions:**

1. What was something you thought was useless at the time you were doing it?
2. How have you seen those things be used at a later time?
3. What is currently on your list of responsibilities that you find to be boring or tedious?
4. How would you rank your level of faithfulness at doing them with a good attitude and with diligence?

### **Application Questions to think through for your Students:**

1. What things might your students feel are boring and useless to their futures?
2. What level of diligence do they show when doing those things?
3. What encouragement can this lesson give them for continuing to do those things with a good attitude and with diligence?

### **Memory Verse:**

Luke 16:10 *Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.*

Write here which game you will use to teach this verse and any supplies you might need:

### **Post-Lesson Activity:**

Have a 100-piece puzzle that is fairly simple in design. Before you lay it on the table for the students to complete, take a look at some of the pieces and say, "Oh, I don't think you're going to need that one. That one looks kind of hard to figure out where it goes." (Remove several pieces that way.) As the students work on the puzzle, if they find a piece that doesn't seem to fit, remove it and say, "That one seems like it's really hard. Let's not bother with it." (For dramatics, you might even consider throwing it in the trash!) When the incomplete puzzle is done, say, "Just like it is pretty silly to say which pieces you are going to need and which pieces you won't need, it's silly to say that the things happening in your life aren't really needed. God is using all of them to put together just the right picture. Even ones that are boring or hard—each one has a place for the BIG picture!"

### **Homework Ideas:**

Have your students write a letter to a friend who thinks doing math (or another subject) is a waste of time because they're never going to use it when they grow up. Have them include why their friend should be diligent even when they are bored or don't want to do a good job. (or—you can have them write to a friend who thinks doing a certain chore is a waste of time.)