



Lesson 8: *David + Goliath* (Condensed Version)

**Objectives:** To explain that:

- David's trust in God, led to victory over Goliath and the Philistines.
- We can learn to trust in God and turn to him when we are confronted with problems and difficult situations.

**"I Wonder" Questions:**

What do you see in this poster? (God's hand, a boy in God's hand, a giant...)

I wonder who the giant warrior is.

I wonder who the boy with the sling is and what he is doing.

I wonder whose big hand the boy is standing on.

Let's find out in our story...

**Lesson Summary:**

Last week we heard about Joshua leading the people of Israel into Canaan, the Promised Land. Joshua and the Israelites trusted and obeyed God and the walls of Jericho came tumbling down. The Israelites lived in the land for a long time but sadly many people turned away from God. They rejected him as king and began worshipping the false gods of the Canaanites.

But there were some Israelites who remembered and loved the one true God. Our story this week is about a young shepherd boy named David who loved God and trusted him. He had to fight a very large enemy named Goliath who was from the Philistine army. Goliath and his army were mocking God and tormenting the Israelites. David was upset when he heard this. He remembered how God had helped him kill lions and bears when they attacked his father's sheep. David believed that God would give him the victory to win against this very tall and strong Philistine warrior. David trusted in God. He picked up his slingshot and five smooth stones from the stream. He said to Goliath, "You come to me with a sword and a spear, but I come to you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, whom you have defied." David swung his stone from the sling and it hit Goliath in the forehead. Goliath stumbled and fell face down on the ground. David killed Goliath and the Philistine army ran away in fear. God made David conquer Goliath and God kept his promise to rescue his people. God is trustworthy and we can always turn to him in times of trouble.

**Suggested Questions: What does this story tell us about God?** (He is with us and helps even the youngest and weakest person, he values faith, he rescues and protects, he judges evil)

- What advantage did the Philistines have over the Israelites? (they had a fierce and tall warrior, Goliath)
- Why did David think that he would be able to conquer Goliath? ( David trusted God. The Lord had helped him to fight off the animals that killed his sheep, he would help the Israelites fight the army that mocked and defied the living God)
- How did God keep his promise to rescue his people? (He equipped and sent David, who had courage and faith and trusted God)
- Name some times that we can or have, turned to God for help? (anvtime, difficulty with learning a new skill, problems with friends, sickness, etc.)

**Bible Memory Verse:**

"The LORD saved me from the paw of the lion...and the bear. And he'll save me from the hand of this Philistine." (1 Samuel 17:37 – NIRV paraphrased)