



Metropolis

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DAVID AND GOLIATH

Series: History of Israel – The Kingdom

Reference: First Samuel 17

Today's Theme Verse: ³ When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.

⁴ In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid.

What can flesh do to me? (*Psalm 56:3-4*)

Theme: God is Trustworthy

Lesson:

We are setting aside some time to think about some of the heroes of the faith we read about in the Bible. As we look at these heroes we want to see that what makes them heroes is that they trusted in the Lord and they pointed us to Jesus; the greatest of all heroes. Today we are thinking about David. David is a hero because he trusted in the Lord when it seemed no one else did.

Although David had been chosen by God to be king, Samuel the prophet had anointed him with oil, and the Spirit of the Lord had rushed upon him, it would be years before David actually took the throne. David remained with his father Jesse and with his sheep until he was called to serve in the court of Saul as a musician and then as Saul's armor-bearer. "David went back and forth from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Bethlehem" (*First Samuel 17:15*). It was while David was with his sheep that Goliath, a 9 ft. 9 in. Philistine champion stepped forward to represent the Philistines in a one on one fight to the death against any champion of Israel. But the men of Israel were afraid. They did not put their trust in the Lord. When David brought food from his father to his brothers at the battle, he heard the words of Goliath. David knew that God is trustworthy. Later he wrote, "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?" (*Psalms 56:3-4*). David trusted in God and fought Goliath and prevailed.

"The story is, for all time, the example of the victory of unarmed faith over the world's utmost might. It is in miniature the history of the Church and the picture of all battles for God. It is a pattern for the young especially. The youthful leaps into the arena, and overcomes, not because of his own strength, but because he trusts in God."

Alexander MacLaren

Picture this. Goliath was big; maybe 9 feet and 9 inches tall. He held a bronze javelin so large and heavy, the average man wouldn't be able to pick it up, much less throw it at an enemy. If the sight of that weren't enough to put fear into his opponents, he also carried two other weapons; a sword and a spear. Overlapping plates of metal protected his body from his neck down to his knees. Bronze armor covered his legs and a bronze helmet safeguarded his head. A man holding a shield went before him, to further screen his body from incoming arrows and spears.

Who could possibly stand a chance against this giant named Goliath, the biggest bully recorded in the Bible? For 40 days he walked into the valley separating his army, the Philistines, from the opposing army of Israel. Each day and each morning he taunted the Israelites, insulting them and their God. For 40 days he urged their strongest man to come fight him. But every soldier, including King Saul, knew he was no match for this giant. They all trembled at the thought of fighting Goliath. They all shook at the sound of his voice.

Everyone, that is, except a little shepherd boy named David. What made this young man - not even a trained soldier - think he could stand up to a bully like Goliath? Why didn't Goliath terrify David?

It was David's trust in God that gave him the courage. Courage means to be brave, to willingly face difficult people or situations even when we are afraid. Perhaps you have had a bully terrorize you. Maybe she has threatened to physically hurt you, or to turn your friends against you if you don't do what she says. Maybe there is someone at school or in your neighborhood who teases and taunts you day after

day. (Maybe it's because you are a Christian.) If that bully is bigger and meaner than you, you may feel like you are no match for him.

But it doesn't matter how scary an enemy seems, if God fights alongside us. The Bible tells us in Romans 8:31, "If God is for us, who can be against us?" When you feel outnumbered or overpowered, remember that God, who commands the power of the Universe, is with you. He's really the only weapon you need in battle.

David went to face Goliath bareheaded and almost barehanded. He wore no helmet or armor, although Saul had tried to give David his own. They didn't fit, and besides, David didn't really need them. He knew God would be his shield and protector. Saul tried to give David his sword too, but David declined it. He decided to challenge Goliath carrying only his shepherd tools, a staff and a slingshot and a few stones. With God's help, they had been enough to kill a lion and bear in the past. With God's help, they would be enough to kill an almost 10-foot-tall giant.

Your giant may not be an actual person. It might be a difficult circumstance that seems too big and overwhelming to face. It could be that someone you love is seriously ill or has even died. Maybe you have a task to do that seems scary. Or maybe your dad has lost his job and you don't know how your family will put food on the table. In all these things, you can overcome your fear if you will trust God.

What does it mean to trust someone? It means that we have confidence in him; we can count on him. We can count on God; we can be confident that He loves us and will protect us, even when we face giants. We can also count on Him as our Almighty and all-powerful Father. He is stronger than our strongest enemy.

David knew that. When he could have been afraid, instead he remembered how God had helped him in the past to kill a lion and a bear. It gave him the courage to take on Goliath and win. It will give you the courage to stand against your giants and win, too.

David defeated Goliath and delivered the nation of Israel from the Philistines. David is a picture of Jesus. Jesus defeated Satan and brought salvation to everyone who believes on Him. Jesus, the Son of God, lived a sinless life. Then He died on the cross to pay the penalty sinners deserve to pay. On the cross, God punished Jesus in the place of sinners. And God raised Jesus from the dead. Now, everyone who puts their faith in Jesus and repents of their sin is forgiven of all their sin. They receive the free gift of eternal life. In dying on the cross, Jesus won the victory over sin, death, and Satan like David won the victory over Goliath.

1. Why were the Israelites so afraid of the Philistine army?

- Who was fighting for the Philistines?
- Who was fighting for the Israelites? (*God*)
- Who is stronger?

2. Why did David think that he could fight Goliath and win?

- Who was his confidence in?
- Why did he have confidence that God would help him kill Goliath?

- What had God done for David in the past?
3. What are some of the Goliaths you have had to face (or might have to face some day)?
 - Where will your courage come from?
 - “When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.” ⁴ In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me? (*Psalm 56:3-4*)
 4. Who did the Philistines put their trust in? (*Themselves, Goliath*)
 - Who did the Israelites forget to put their trust in? (*God*)
 - What does **Proverbs 3:5** say about trust in God vs. trusting in yourself?
Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.
 5. Look up the following verses that will encourage you to put your trust in the Lord when you face Goliath.
 - **Isaiah 41:10** “fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”
 - **Psalm 56:9** “Then my enemies will turn back in the day when I call. This I know, that God is for me.”
 - **Psalm 118:6** “The LORD is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”
 - **Romans 8:31** “What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?”

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4th

Name: _____

Date: _____

Listen to the Lesson! Make a Mark For each time you hear:

BIBLE	GOD	JESUS	LOVE
Christian	Faith	Heaven	Pray

Lesson Title: _____

Scripture: _____

MEMORY VERSE

QUESTIONS I HAVE?

PRAYER REQUESTS

POINTS OF THE MESSAGE

1:

2:

3:



My DOODLES
