

Parents: The young shepherd boy, David, came against the champion, Goliath, with only a sling and five smooth stones. As the Israelites were quaking with fear, David was confident that the Lord would deliver him. The Lord had already saved him from a bear and a lion while he tended his family's flocks. David could rest assured he would win the battle for Israel with the Lord on his side.



Read: 1 Samuel 17: 4-15, 1 Samuel 17: 20-24, 1 Samuel 17: 32-50

4 A champion named Goliath, who was from Gath, came out of the Philistine camp. His height was six cubits and a span. 5 He had a bronze helmet on his head and wore a coat of scale armor of bronze weighing five thousand shekels; 6 on his legs he wore bronze greaves, and a bronze javelin was slung on his back. 7 His spear shaft was like a weaver's rod, and its iron point weighed six hundred shekels. His shield bearer went ahead of him.

8 Goliath stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, "Why do you come out and line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not the servants of Saul? Choose a man and have him come down to me. 9 If he is able to fight and kill me, we will become your subjects; but if I overcome him and kill him, you will become our subjects and serve us." 10 Then the Philistine said, "This day I defy the armies of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other." 11 On hearing the Philistine's words, Saul and all the Israelites were dismayed and terrified.

12 Now David was the son of an Ephrathite named Jesse, who was from Bethlehem in Judah. Jesse had eight sons, and in Saul's time he was very old. 13 Jesse's three oldest sons had followed Saul to the war: The firstborn was Eliab; the second, Abinadab; and the third, Shammah. 14 David was the youngest. The three oldest followed Saul, 15 but David went back and forth from Saul to tend his father's sheep at Bethlehem.

1 Samuel 17: 20-24 20 Early in the morning David left the flock in the care of a shepherd, loaded up and set out, as Jesse had directed. He reached the camp as the army was going out to its battle positions, shouting the war cry. 21 Israel and the Philistines were drawing up their lines facing each other. 22 David left his things with the keeper of supplies, ran to the battle lines and asked his brothers how they were. 23 As he was talking with them, Goliath, the Philistine champion from Gath, stepped out from his lines and shouted his usual defiance, and David heard it. 24 Whenever the Israelites saw the man, they all fled from him in great fear.

1 Samuel 17: 32-50

32 David said to Saul, "Let no one lose heart on account of this Philistine; your servant will go and fight him."

33 Saul replied, "You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him; you are only a young man, and he has been a warrior from his youth."

34 But David said to Saul, "Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, 35 I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. 36 Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. 37 The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine."

Saul said to David, "Go, and the Lord be with you."

38 Then Saul dressed David in his own tunic. He put a coat of armor on him and a bronze helmet on his head. 39 David fastened on his sword over the tunic and tried walking around, because he was not used to them.

"I cannot go in these," he said to Saul, "because I am not used to them." So he took them off.

40 Then he took his staff in his hand, chose five smooth stones from the stream, put them in the pouch of his shepherd's bag and, with his sling in his hand, approached the Philistine.

41 Meanwhile, the Philistine, with his shield bearer in front of him, kept coming closer to David. 42 He looked David over and saw that he was little more than a boy, glowing with health and handsome, and he despised him. 43 He said to David, "Am I a dog, that you come at me with sticks?" And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. 44 "Come here," he said, "and I'll give your flesh to the birds and the wild animals!"

45 David said to the Philistine, "You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. 46 This day the Lord will deliver you into my hands, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head. This very day I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds and the wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. 47 All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the Lord saves; for the battle is the Lord's, and he will give all of you into our hands."

48 As the Philistine moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet him. 49 Reaching into his bag and taking out a stone, he slung it and struck the Philistine on the forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell facedown on the ground.

50 So David triumphed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone; without a sword in his hand he struck down the Philistine and killed him.

Discuss: Goliath, the champion, said he wanted to fight a man from Israel. If he lost the Philistines would be subject to the Israelites and if he won the opposite would happen. How did Saul and the Israelites feel when they heard that? *Terrified!*

Now David was Jesse's son and he was the youngest of how many brothers? 8 When Saul tried to talk David out of fighting Goliath what did David tell him? When David was a shepherd the Lord rescued him from a bear and a lion. *He was confident that the Lord would be with him when he fought Goliath, too.*

When David decided not to use Saul's armor, what did he choose as a weapon instead? He took his sling and 5 small, smooth stones.

What did David say about the Lord when he approached Goliath? *David was coming against Goliath in the name of the Lord, the God of Israel. The Lord would give David victory and the whole world would know.*

What happened? *David hit Goliath in the forehead with a stone and he died.*

David knew he would win the battle for Israel with the Lord on his side. When we are faced with tough challenges, who can we always count on to be on our side? *God.*

Key Point: We Fight Our Battles with God on Our Side

We Fight Our Battles with (Point to yourself and others, pretend to punch the air)

God on Our Side (Take both fists thumbs pointing to forehead and spread fingers out, point to floor right next to your feet)

Family Activity: Color the sheet included. Thank the Lord for always being with us when we face challenges and battle sin.

Prayer: Dear God, We praise You for sending Jesus to save us. He won the battle by conquering death and taking away our sins. Help us always remember that and share the good news with our friends. We thank and love You. Amen.

Next Steps: Memorize 1 Samuel 17:45 "...You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel..."



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David and Goliath

“...You come against me with sword and spear and javelin,
but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty,
the God of the armies of Israel...”

1 Samuel 17:45