

DAY ONE



Theme: Courage from God

Lesson: David & Goliath | Samuel 17

Memory Verse: "Be strong and of good courage...for the Lord God is with you." 1 Chronicles 28:20

Bible Point: God gives us the courage to stand up for Him

Classroom

Turn your room into David and Goliath's battle field! Decorate the left and right walls as mountains with both Israelite and Philistine armies on either side. The front of the class should be the valley between. (See page 92.)

(5 Minutes)

Introduction

Teacher:
Before beginning the introductory comments on the day's lesson, encourage the children to pull out their Bible and go over the memory verse with you.

- Teacher:** Hello! Welcome to VBS! Today, we are going to learn a very important lesson about courage from the story of David and Goliath. David displayed great courage when he faced Goliath. Who can tell me what it means to have courage?
- Children:** Courage is doing something even when you are afraid of it.
- Teacher:** That's right! So, our very first superpower that we want to learn about this year is Courage! What are some things that you are afraid of?
- Children:** [Give them a few seconds to share some of the things that they are afraid of, then continue.]

Teacher:
Give your students time to answer each question. If you don't get the answers you are looking for, lead them to the answers provided with this outline.

Introduction continued

- Teacher:** Did you know that God gives us the courage to face our fears? He does! Open your Bibles to 1 Samuel 17:11 "When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine; they were dismayed and were greatly afraid." Who do you think the Israelites were so afraid of?
- Children:** They were afraid of Goliath.
- Teacher:** That's right! Goliath was a giant warrior! He was the biggest man any of the Israelites had ever seen! Do you know how big Goliath was?
- The Bible says in 1 Samuel 17:4, that he was six cubits and a span. That's a little over nine feet tall! (*TEACHER: Use a point of reference so the kids will have a good idea of how tall nine feet is.*)
- Would you have been scared to face Goliath?
- Children:** Yes!
- Teacher:** I would have been, too! Even the biggest, strongest men were scared to face Goliath. The Bible says that, "they were greatly afraid." None of them had the courage to go out and face him, no one except David. Now, let's get real quiet and listen. Let's see just what happened when David faced Goliath.

(10 Minutes)

Teacher:
Make sure there is enough room for all of the children to watch. Also, impress upon them the need for silence to hear what is being said.

David & Goliath:
Be sure to speak loudly and clearly.

Lesson

[Enter Goliath on the left side of the room: Laughing a mirthless laugh]

Goliath: Look at this, boys! God's MIGHTY PEOPLE, the CHOSEN ones! And all they can send to me is a little boy no bigger than my right arm! Who do they think I am? Do they think that I'm going to have pity and walk away just because they send a child to do a man's job?

Hasn't he seen me? Hasn't he noticed how huge I am? Surely he must be blind! None of the others are brave enough to face me and they are twice his size! He has to be blind or lacking brains to think he can defeat ME! **[Mockingly]** I'll even fight him with one hand tied behind my back! To be honest, I don't think I'd need either of my hands.

[Picks up his shield]

Goliath: Well, boys, it looks like the little man is ready. I'll be back soon, this shouldn't take too long. I mean seriously, who expects this little fellow to win? I'll just bet he dies of fright before I even take a swing at him! Who wouldn't? I'm even scared of myself! Okay, little man, here I come!

[David Enters]

David: (*To the kids*) I'll face Goliath today with only the courage God has given me and a simple sling. Our God is all powerful, and I know that he will give me a victory this day.

Lesson Continued

Make sure there is enough room for all of the children to watch. Also, impress upon them the need for silence to hear what is being said.

David & Goliath:
Be sure to speak loudly and clearly.

[David & Goliath step to the center of the room.]

David: You may be able to intimidate everyone else, but God has given me courage to face you!

[David takes his sling and flings an imaginary stone at Goliath. When he flings the stone, Goliath snaps his head back as though being struck and falls to the ground.]

David: VICTORY! God has granted Israel a mighty victory today!

[Picks up Goliath's shield]

David: Today God has given me the courage to do what others were afraid to do. Do you see this shield? It was carried by a man who mocked and taunted God and His people. He came out here and blasphemed my God. I was shocked to see that no one was doing anything about it. They were all too afraid.

[Puts shield back down]

David: But, God saw fit to grant me the courage and strength to go out and face him with only my sling and pouch. And now, God is not being mocked! Now, He is being praised by His people and feared and respected by His enemies! Truly this is a great day for God!

[David exits]

(5 - 10 Minutes)

Teacher:

Personalize your lesson by adding your own points and questions to the application.

If you need to fill additional time, sing songs with the children.

Application

Teacher: Why were none of the other Israelites doing anything about Goliath?

Children: He was too big and they were afraid to go near him.

Teacher: Why was David so upset at what Goliath was saying?

Children: Because Goliath was mocking God.

Teacher: Who can tell me about today's puppet skit?

Children: Ronnie, Roy, and Nell were too afraid to go into the basement to get Ronnie's superhero mask.

Teacher: Who finally got the mask for Ronnie?

Children: Mylo.

Teacher: Why was Mylo not afraid?

Children: Because, he knew that God was with him.

Songs to sing:
"There was a
little boy David."

"I wonder
how it felt?"



To order, see page 130.

Application continued

Teacher: That's right! It took a lot of courage for Mylo to go down into the basement to face the monster just like it took a lot of courage for David to go out and face Goliath the way he did.

David needed to confront Goliath because Goliath was dishonoring God. So God not only gave David the courage to stand up to Goliath, but He also protected him and kept him safe.

He will do the same for us when we are afraid to do what's right.

Teacher: What are some things that you are afraid of?

Children: Dark, talking to others about God, etc...

Teacher: How can God give us courage to face each of our fears?

(End class with a prayer. Pray that God will give us the courage to face each of our fears.)

***Have David come back and pass
out his Bible trading cards!***

*To order your trading cards use the order form located
on your "Christian Academy" CD.*

Teacher:

The posted time for each section is only a suggestion based on a 25-30 minute class. You will want to adjust these times to accommodate your class period. Allow yourself 5-10 minutes to get to know the kids, learn names, and interact with them.