

*Get Ready!***Giant Trouble**

By Myra Montgomery

**Text**

1 Samuel 17 (New International Version)

Key Quest Verse

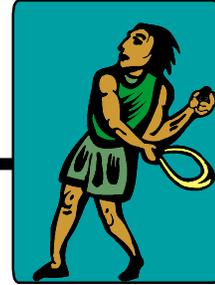
“God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.” Psalm 46: 1

Bible Background

At any given moment in our existence, God knows what we're thinking, what we're about to do, how we're going to handle a certain situation, whether or not we're sincere, and on and on. It's because God knows us so well that He can cleverly use our unique life histories and singular personalities to serve His will. David was no exception to this truth. From boy shepherd to aging king, the Creator led David through the good and bad of his human personality to become one of history's most renowned and respected figures.

Get Ready!

Lesson Quest



What I want my students to:

KNOW: David trusted God to help him; God was with him.

FEEL: We can trust God just as David did.

DO: Ask God and then thank Him for being with us when we have “giant” problems.

Leader’s Devotion

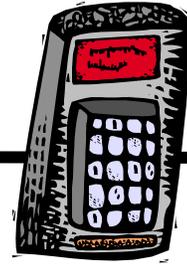
Another great lesson in the story of David and Goliath is the lesson of **outward armor**. When David determined that he would fight Goliath, anxious King Saul wanted him to wear armor. After all, that was the normal way to go into battle. Look at the Goliath's outward armor--a javelin and a spear, a metal helmet, his entire body protected by armor, and a shield-bearer to go ahead of him (1 Samuel 17:5-7)! What an awesome sight--what an outward appearance! Unfortunately, King Saul was impressed and intimidated. He hadn't learned God's lessons about "outward appearance" and "outward armor". Outward armor was actually a hindrance to David. It didn't fit and it hadn't been tested. David stepped out in faith and went with his slingshot. This he knew how to use, because he had tested it and used it successfully.

Some people have the idea that David was just a "shepherd boy," completely untrained and untested. However, David was trained in real life experience. How many hours of disciplined training do you think David spent working on the art of stone slinging and perfecting his aim? In addition, God tested David's courage in confrontations with a bear and a lion as he protected his sheep--alone in the fields. David only had a staff and a slingshot--no rifle! Yet David did not run away as we would likely have done! In real life training and testing David learned the lessons of trusting God despite having no "outward armor."

How much training do we need in our life before we learn the lesson of fully trusting God?

Get Set!

Option A



Materials: Calculator

I thought that today we might have a little math lesson. Since I know that most of you have already started to school, I know that you have studied math. I am going to give you a problem and if you know the answer, raise your hand.

$1 + 1 = \underline{\quad}$ (call on someone to answer) Great, here's another one.

$2 + 2 = \underline{\quad}$ (call on someone to answer) Oh, these are too easy. Try this one:

$2 \times 2 = \underline{\quad}$ (call on someone to answer) That's great! You guys are smart!

$3 \times 4 = \underline{\quad}$ (call on someone to answer) Good job! Now here's another one.

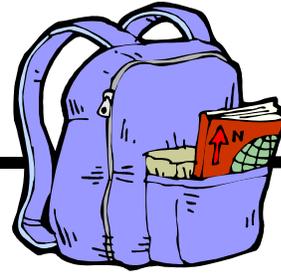
$27 \times 9 = \underline{\quad}$ (probably no hands will go up)

Well, I guess you need a little help with that one! (Take out your calculator) Let's see, $27 \times 9 = 243$. That was a pretty difficult problem, so we had to have a little help from the calculator. There is nothing wrong with that. We all need help sometimes.

Every day we face problems in our life. Some of them are easy problems like "What shall I wear to school today?" or "Should I have Fruit Loops or Apple Jacks for breakfast?" But sooner or later, we will have a problem that we just don't know how to solve. We will need help. Isn't it good to know that God is always there to help us solve those problems. The Bible tells us that God is always there to help us in times of trouble. All we have to do is pray and He will give us the answer.

In our story today, we are going to talk about someone who used God's help to fight a very big problem.

GO TO THE BIBLE STORY

Get Set!**Option B**

Materials: A backpack full of books

I know that most of you use a backpack to carry all of your school supplies and books back and forth to school. I see some children with backpacks that are almost as big as they are! Sometimes their backpacks are so loaded with all those heavy books that it is just about more than they can carry!

Life is a lot like that too. Sometimes we have some pretty heavy burdens that we try to carry around with us. Some of you may be worried that you won't have any friends in your class, or that the other kids won't like you, or that you just won't fit in. Maybe some of you are worried that you won't have the right clothes. Maybe you are still wearing a "Star Wars" t-shirt and all the other kids are wearing "Pokemon" t-shirts. Maybe some of you are worried that you might not be able to do the work in your new grade and are afraid you might fail. Those can be pretty heavy problems to carry around with us.

Well, I have some good news for you! You don't have to carry all those worries around with you! The Bible tells us that God will carry those burdens for us. He will help us do things that we never thought were possible.

In our Bible Story today, we will learn about a young boy who fully relied on the Lord to help him do the impossible!

GO TO THE BIBLE STORY

Get Set!



Bible Story

Teacher Tip: Provide markers for students to highlight portions of the story in their Bibles

The Philistines and the Israelites were enemies. One day, the Philistines marched to fight against King Saul and the army of Israel. The Philistines had a champion named Goliath of Gath. He was a great big, stinking, ugly, mean giant!

The Philistines stood on one mountain and King Saul and his army stood on the other, with a valley between them. Goliath went down the mountain alone. Goliath challenged the army of Saul. Goliath roared, “Choose a man to fight me!” When King Saul heard what Goliath said, they were dismayed and afraid. Every morning for forty days, Goliath came down into the valley and defied the army of Israel. For forty days, Saul and his army cowered on their hill afraid to do anything.

There was a young man named David who came often to visit his three brothers who were in Saul’s army. He would bring them food from their father. David’s father, Jesse, had eight sons. David was the youngest one. He was a shepherd, and he took good care of his father’s sheep. David loved his father’s sheep and often sang to them. David made up many songs and wrote them down. There is a book in the Bible filled with his songs, it is called Psalms.

One day David’s father sent him with more food for his brothers in Saul’s army. When David arrived, Saul’s army was going down to fight the Philistines. But Goliath came down again and scared them all away. David was mad when the Israelites ran away. David shouted, “This is God’s army! We can beat that giant!”

Some soldiers went to King Saul and told them about David. David talked to King Saul, “Don’t worry about the giant, I’ll go fight him myself!”

“But you’re just a Shepherd! Goliath has been a warrior since his youth!”, answered King Saul.

“Once when a bear came to steal my sheep, I fought him with my own hands to rescue a helpless little lamb!”, explained David.

King Saul said, “Go then, and fight Goliath. And the Lord be with you.” Then King Saul clothed David in his own royal armor.

Get Set!



Bible Story cont.

David took off King Saul's armor. It was way too big and heavy! So David went down to the creek in the valley. David found five small stones in the creek. He put them in his shepherd's bag. Now it was time to face the giant. Goliath was insulted when he saw a shepherd coming to fight him. "You fight with a big sword and a giant spear," David shouted. "But I am fighting you in the name of the big God of Israel!"

Goliath took a step toward David—and David jumped over the creek and ran right toward Goliath. The stone from David's sling flew fast and straight and hit Goliath smack in the middle of the forehead! Goliath fell down dead! Then David took Goliath's own sword and cut off his head! When the Philistines saw that their hero was dead, they got scared and ran away! The army of Israel gave a great big, loud victory shout! King Saul's army chased after the fleeing Philistines.

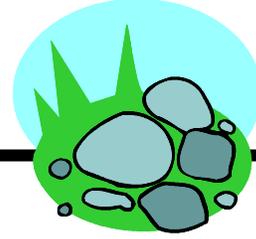
The Israelites came back from the chase and went to the Philistine's abandoned war camp. They took everything the Philistines had left behind. David took Goliath's head and armor.

David was now a great hero, and Saul wanted to know more about him. Saul asked David to come live with the royal family and to be captain in the army of Israel.

When Saul's army returned from battle, David was hailed a hero for killing the giant. The people shouted, "Saul has slain his thousands, but David has slain his ten thousands!" Saul was so upset that David was honored more than he was! David became very popular with everyone that Saul wished he had never invited him to stay in his house at all!

Then one day Saul was so mad, that he threw a spear at David to kill him. But he missed! David escaped from Saul and went to the town of Ramah. Many of Saul's soldiers ran away from Saul, too. They still wanted David to be their captain. They hid with David in the wilderness of Ziph in the caves of the hill of Hachilah. Saul often went looking for David to kill him. But he could never find him.

One day King Saul died in a battle with the Philistines. God made David the New King! David loved God and led the people well. He was the best king Israel ever had!

Go!

Stone Cookies**FOOD**

Materials: Prepared sugar cookie dough, Oreo type cookies crushed, a surprise to go inside of the cookie (ring pop, small toy, etc.), cookie sheet, wax paper

You can also use your own recipe for the sugar cookie dough.

Quest Connection

Let's look in our Bibles again at the story of David and Goliath. What do you think was the biggest surprise in the story? (a small shepherd boy could kill a giant) We are going to make some surprise stones today.

Procedure: Give each student a equal amount of cookie dough. Have them roll the dough into a ball on a small sheet of wax paper. Have students to make an indentation in their cookie ball, large enough to put their small toy in. Pull some dough around toy to hid it in the ball. Roll the balls in the crushed cookies. Place the balls on the cookie sheet and bake in an oven at 350 degrees until done.

Close

Have students open up their “stones” and pull out the prize. Enjoy eating the cookies together. **The story of David has many surprises in it. Let's make a list of them together.** Write the ideas on the board.

Go!**1 cubit = ?****Ancient Math****MATH****Materials:** A copy of the worksheet “Guesstimate” for each student, pencils, Bibles**Quest Connection**

Measurements have changed over time. In Old Testament times, different units of measurement were used. I have a worksheet to give you that is going to help you get an idea of how their ancient units measure up to our present day units.

Procedure: Pass out the worksheets to students. Have them estimate how the equivalency of a shekel and cubit in modern day measurements. Then give them the following information:

CUBIT= 18 INCHES 0.5 METER

SHEKEL= 2/5 OUNCES 11.5 GRAMS

This are approximate equivalences.

Close

Any way that we measure , Goliath was a big guy compared to David. We often face many things in our lives that seem as big as Goliath! We need to pray about them. Turn them over to God a rely on Him to help us defeat those giant problems or obstacles. Let us sit in a circle and hold hands. I'll go first, when I am done praying I will squeeze ___ s hand (student to your right or left). If you want to pray out loud please do so. Or you may pray silently. When you are done praying, pass the squeeze on to the person on your right/left. The prayer will go around the circle and end back with me.

You should begin by praying for one of your own challenges. Remember to tell children that God hears all our prayers, even the ones we leave unspoken out loud, so they should pray silently if they are not comfortable saying their prayer out loud.

Go!

Sling Shot

OBJECT LESSON

Materials: Small flat stones and a sling or a picture of one



Quest Connection

The story of David and Goliath is one of my favorites. Have you ever been made fun of by a big bully? I have. It doesn't feel good to be taunted. Goliath was a huge man. He was a giant that stood about 9 feet 9 inches. That's taller than Shaquille O'Neal. He cursed at the Israelites and said bad things about their God. He was a Philistine and wanted to settle the battle in a one-on-one contest so that many soldiers did not have to die. He was asking for one man among the Israelites to come out to fight for them. Everyone was afraid because he was such a terrifying giant.

David was just a teenage mutant ninja shepherd. <grin> No, not really. He was young, but he was brave. He knew that God protected him from the bears and lions that tried to steal the sheep he was guarding. One time he killed a lion and a bear with his bare hands. Although Goliath had a suit of armor, all David had was a slingshot and five smooth stones and his shepherd staff. King Saul tried to get David to wear armor to protect him, but it was very heavy and David had never tried to fight with it on before. So he left it behind and trusted God: he will deliver me out of the hand of the Philistine. When Goliath saw that the Israelites sent a boy to fight, he made fun of them some more. Then he told David he was going to rip him apart and feed him to the birds and beasts. David answered bravely and told him God would get the glory. Wow! David gave a testimony right on the battlefield in front of everybody. In 1 Samuel 17:47 it says, "And all this assembly shall know that the Lord saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the Lord's, and he will give you into our hands." Now David didn't have a slingshot like you may think. It wasn't a Y-shaped stick with a rubber band between it. It was a rope with a small pouch on the end and you would wave it around in a circle to get the speed you needed to release the stone. When Goliath came at David, he didn't get scared and run away. He went straight at Goliath. He took out a smooth stone from his shepherd's bag and placed it in the sling. Then he slung it at the giant and hit him squarely in the forehead. The stone had been a mighty weapon after all. It went into his skull and killed Goliath. Then David went and took Goliath's sword and cut off his head. That scared the Philistines so badly that they ran away in fear and were chased by the Israelites out of the land.

Close

We all have our fears and enemies. We don't have to be afraid. God is always with us to protect us and give us courage. We only have to remember that the battle is the Lord's. When God gives us the victory, let's be sure to thank Him and praise Him for what He has done.

Go!

Sword Drill**GAME**

Materials: Bible for each student, worksheet “Sword Drill”, pencils or pens

Quest Connection

We are going to play a game to see how fast you can find some answers to questions about the story of David in the Bible.

Procedure: I will give you a Bible reference and a question. When I say go, quickly look up the verse and find the answer to fill in the blank. As soon as you find it, stand up. First one to stand and give the correct answer will get a point. The team with the highest score wins the game! Use the questions on the worksheet in order or mix them up. Another idea is to just have the students work in groups to find the answers.

Close

The more we study God’s Word, the more we will find heroes in the past that have fully relied on God. Do you fully rely on Him?

Go!

Stone Transfer



GAME (Check the Internet for more information or instructions on playing Mancala.)

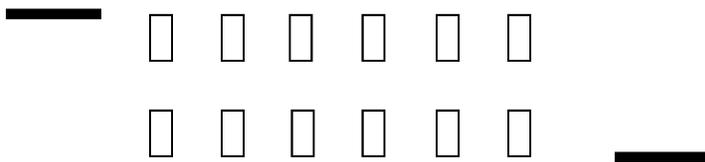
Materials: 1 Egg Carton Per Child, 2, 5 ounce Cups Per Child, 48 small stones or rocks per child

Quest Connection

Today we are going to make a game that you can take home with you. The game is called Mancala and is thought to be the oldest game around. The word, “Mancala” means “to transfer” in Arabic. When playing the game of Mancala, think about how David transferred a stone by using his sling shot to kill Goliath. By killing Goliath the land was transferred back to God’s people, the Israelites.

Procedure: Cut the lid off the egg carton. Place 4 stones in each of the egg carton spaces. Place a 5 ounce cup on each side of the egg carton. The game is played with 2 players. Each player has one side of the egg carton (6 spaces) and the cup to the right of the six spaces. The cup to the right of the 6 spaces is called Mancala.

The object is to have the most stones in your Mancala at the end of the game. The 1st player chooses one of his spaces and takes all the stones out of it. He/she places one stone in each space to the right of the space where he removed the stones. He/she would include their Mancala cup in the placing of stones, but do not include your opponent’s Mancala cup. Move counter clockwise. If the last stone is placed into the Mancala cup, then the player gets to go again. Otherwise, player 2 does the same thing. Play continues until a player runs out of stones. The game is over and whoever has the most stones in their Mancala wins!



Close

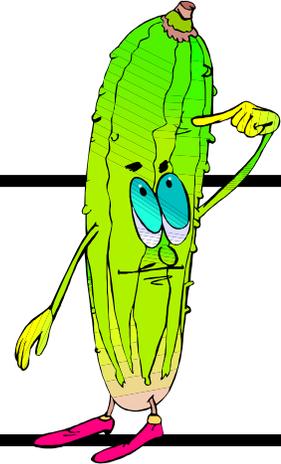
Talk to the children about what they can transfer to God. Maybe they have problems at school or at home with siblings. They can transfer these problems to God by talking to Him through prayer.

Go!

Dave and the Giant Pickle

VIDEO

Materials: VCR, video Veggie Tales’ “Dave and the Giant Pickle” (about 30 minutes long)



Quest Connection

Today we will watch “Dave and the Giant Pickle.” This video shows how a little shepherd boy named Dave feels when his big brothers head off to defend their country, leaving Dave behind with the sheep. “Big people do big things and little people do little things,” they told him. Well, they are in for the surprise of their lives and so are you! While you are watching this video, notice what the king was like and notice how the characters treat each other. would you want to be friends with any of them?

Procedure: Show the video and stop it at the beginning of the musical selection (“Silly Songs With Larry”) and discuss the movie thus far. Who was Dave? What qualities/characteristics are they displaying so far? How would you describe them? Name some ways people get us to do things we do not want to do.

Show the second half of the video.

Close

- What was Dave’s problem?
- How did Dave find a solution?
- Did Dave solve his problem on his own?
- If not, how was Dave able to face such as a giant foe?
- Was Dave expecting to be the one who would face the giant?

We can see how God can help us in many different challenging situations, even when we are not expecting it. Think about some challenges, some ‘giants,’ which you have defeated with God’s help.

Guesstimate!

Goliath was six cubits and one span tall. Guess how tall he was in feet and inches!

Guess

Actual

He wore chain mail coat that weighed as much as 5,000 shekels of bronze! How heavy was that?

Guess _____

Actual _____

He carried a spear with a sharp spearhead that weighed 600 shekels of iron. How heavy do you think that was?

Guess _____

Actual _____

Measure something at your church and figure out its equivalency in cubits!

WORKSHEET

There once was a _____
named _____,

Whose skill with a _____
was the _____.

He could _____, he could
_____.

But his _____ was his
_____;

He once used it to _____
a great _____.

Complete this limerick using the words below:

play knave sling rave harp
kill shepherd Dave sing fame

Look up "knave" in the dictionary and write the definition below:

WORKSHEET



Read some of the Psalms. Write some of the adjectives that David used to describe God.



JOURNAL

**What are some of the Goliaths in your life?
Write a prayer asking God to help you defeat them.**

Dear Heavenly Father,



**In Jesus' Name,
Amen**

DID YOU KNOW?

Goliath came from a “BIG” family. He had a brother and a cousin who were also GIANTS ! Read !1 Chronicles 20:4-8

Goliath’s brother’s name was

_____.

Goliath’s cousin’s name was

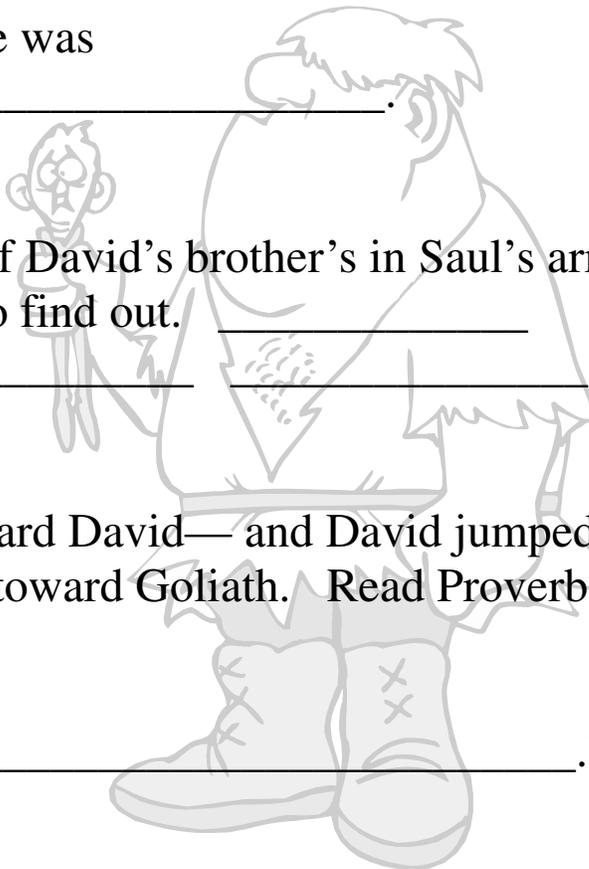
_____.

What were the names of David’s brother’s in Saul’s army?
Read 1 Samuel 17:13 to find out.

Goliath took a step toward David—and David jumped over the creek and ran right toward Goliath. Read Proverbs 28:1 and fill in the blanks.

“The righteous are

_____.”





FIND THE FOLLOWING WORDS IN THE PUZZLE ABOVE:

SAUL BETHLEHEM WAR ARMY JESSE

SAVE JORDAN ISRAEL HIGH SHOE

SHARE HOLD ARM FAMILY HERO

SWORD DRILL

1. “The Philistines stood on a mountain on one side, and Israel stood on a mountain on the other side, with a _____ between them.” **I Samuel 17:3**
2. “And a champion went out from the camp of the Philistines, named _____, from Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span.” **I Samuel 17:4**
3. “And the Philistine said, “I defy the armies of _____ this day; give me a man, that we may fight together.” **I Samuel 17:10**
4. “When Saul and all Israel heard these words of Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly _____.” **I Samuel 17:11**
5. “Then _____ said to Saul, “Let no man’s heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight with the Philistine.” **I Samuel 17:32**
6. “Saul clothed David with his _____, and he put a bronze helmet on his head: he also clothed him with a coat of mail.” **I Samuel 17:38**
7. “Then he took his staff in his hand; and he chose for himself five smooth _____ from the brook and put them in a shepherd’s bag.” **I Samuel 17:40**
8. “The Philistine said to David, ‘Am I a _____, that you come to me with sticks?’” **I Samuel 17:43**
9. David said to the Philistine, “I come to you in the _____ of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.” **I Samuel 17:45**
10. “The Lord does not save with sword and spear; for the _____ is the Lord’s, and He will give you into our hands.” **I Samuel 17:49**
11. “David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone: and he _____ it and struck the Philistine in his forehead.” **I Samuel 17:47**
12. “So David _____ over the Philistine with a sling and a stone, and struck the Philistine and killed him.” **I Samuel 17:50**