



LESSON 2 FOR LEADERS

INVITATION

We invite you to pause, listen, and shift your gaze toward the Father ...

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: God Will Always Be Victorious

SCRIPTURE: [1 Samuel 17](#)

WORD OF WONDER: [From Joshua 1:9](#)

Is there any story in Scripture that is more well-known than David and Goliath?

A Google search of those names offers more than 24 million results. The story is a staple of kids ministry curricula, the subject of many Hollywood movies, and the phrase “David vs. Goliath” is a longtime fixture in our sports lexicon for describing a contest between a significant underdog and an overwhelming favorite.

Yet do we know the true meaning of the story? If we stop at the remarkable courage of a plucky young shepherd boy, we’ve missed the mark.

As you read [1 Samuel 17](#) this week, consider the real hero of the story. Even David knew the victory over Goliath wasn’t ultimately his own. Before slinging that famous stone, he declared, “This day the Lord will give me the victory over you. ... The battle belongs to the Lord. He will hand all of you over to us” ([1 Samuel 17:46–47](#)).

God will always be victorious, and all the glory is His. Christ has already conquered our greatest enemies—sin, Satan, and death—through His death and resurrection. And if “God did not spare his own Son. ... Then won’t he also freely give us everything else?” ([Romans 8:32](#)). Indeed, He will.

This week, in whatever challenges you might face, rejoice in the God who fights for His people: He is always victorious!

—Josh Cooley

Children’s Minister and Author

Contributor to Wonder Ink

LESSON 2 FOR LEADERS

DAVID AND GOLIATH

DID YOU KNOW?

FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS

WHO?

David, a lowly shepherd, was described as a man after God's own heart. He was anointed the second king of Israel by Samuel the prophet after God rejected King Saul for disobedience. Goliath was a Philistine warrior from Gath who stood over nine feet tall.

WHAT?

Goliath challenged any willing Israelite to single combat to decide a battle between the Israelites and the Philistines. While visiting his brothers to bring supplies, David accepted the challenge, trusting God's power to win any battle. David killed Goliath with a sling and a stone.

WHERE?

Philistine territory lay along the Mediterranean coast, west of the Dead Sea. The battle took place between two cities on the eastern side of the Valley of Elah, which lay between Philistine territory and the Judean hill country. Bethlehem was 15 miles east of Elah.

WHEN?

First Samuel recounts the beginning of the monarchy after the time of the judges. David had recently been anointed the second king of Israel when he faced Goliath, though King Saul was still on the throne. David served as one of Saul's armor-bearers.

CONNECTING TO GOD'S BIG STORY

David triumphed despite seemingly impossible odds because of God's power. Such victories point to the even greater victory of the cross, where a power greater than death itself arrived on the scene through Jesus, a descendant of David. Now death is swallowed up in victory!



Curiosity

LESSON 2 **EARLY CHILDHOOD**

Spark curiosity, encourage exploration, and get kids thinking about the wonder of God.

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Activity: Stone Sensory Bin

SUPPLIES: shallow bin, blue shredded paper, stones (5)

Leader Tip: Make sure the stones used for this activity are not small enough to present a choking hazard.

Before kids arrive, hide the stones in a shallow bin filled with blue shredded paper. Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church.

Welcome! Today we're talking about someone named David who used five stones to do something amazing! In the story, we'll hear how David gathered five stones from a river. Let's find five stones in this bin.

Have kids find the stones in the sensory bin. After they find all five, encourage the kids to count the stones with you.



10:45 Service

Belief

LESSON 2 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Guide kids into knowing God more deeply, exploring His big story, and marveling at His wonder.

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Prayer of Invitation

Before entering into God's big story, lead kids in a prayer of invitation. Use the prayer here or your own words: **God, thank You that You're victorious! We can't wait to hear Your Word today and learn about Your power. We invite Your Holy Spirit to help us hear from You and show us that, with You, we can have victory. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

God's Big Story

Pull out the Bible

Ask: What is this called? The Bible

Ask: Why is the Bible important? Because it is God's word. Everything in it is true. It really happened.

Tell the Bible Story

The Beginner's Bible, pages 173-180

David and Goliath

Word of Wonder

WORD OF WONDER

**Be strong and brave. Do not be afraid. God
will be with you wherever you go.**

—from Joshua 1:9

Encourage the kids to do the motions and say the verse with you.

Gather kids to discuss these questions:

- **What two things does our Word of Wonder tell us God can help us be?** (strong and brave)
- **How does it feel to know God is with you wherever you go?**



Identity

LESSON 2 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Create space for God to remind kids they are known, loved, led, and their lives can tell of God's wonder.

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Activity: Goliath Knockout

SUPPLIES: small or medium-sized cardboard boxes (at least 3), tape, playground ball (optional)

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: [Goliath Face Printable](#)

Before kids arrive, print the [Goliath's Face Printable](#) and tape it to one of the boxes. Set up the boxes by stacking them into a tower with the Goliath face on the top.

Today we learned that David trusted in God, and he beat Goliath with God's help! We can remember that God will always be victorious! Let's take turns knocking down Goliath just like David. We can be victorious because God is always with us.

Let the kids use their hands and legs to take turns knocking down the stack of boxes. Restack them each time they are knocked down. You can also let the kids use a playground ball to knock them down.

Prayer and Blessing

After the kids finish their activity, pray with them, thanking God for being victorious and for making us strong and brave.

God, thank You for being with us when we face problems or fears. Thank You for making us strong and brave and for giving us victory. Help us to trust You when we're afraid and to remember that You're victorious over everything. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Encourage the kids to hold their hands out in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands were open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

Blessing: May the God who is victorious give you His strength and power. He is with you wherever you go. May you be strong and brave with His help today and every day.