



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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Play Stations

SUPPLIES: small stones and rocks; large, shallow bin; variety of small objects and toys, coloring utensils

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: [David and Goliath Coloring Sheet](#) (1 per kid)

Greet kids warmly as they arrive and briefly explain the play stations. Invite them to play at any of the play stations.

Welcome to church! While we're getting ready to start, you can play at any of these stations to help get ready for our lesson today. Do you have any ideas of what we'll be learning about today?

Play Station: Stone Sensory Bin

Set-up: Place stones and rocks in a large, shallow bin.

Play: Allow kids to play with the rocks and stones in the sensory bin. Invite kids to talk about how the stones are different or similar.

Play Station: David and Goliath Coloring Sheet

Set-up: Print one copy per kid of the [Coloring Sheet](#). Set out the [Coloring Sheets](#) and coloring utensils.

Play: Let the kids color. The kids can also turn the sheet over and draw the biggest thing they have ever seen.

9:00 Service



9:00 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

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Who was yelling at the Israelites? (*Goliath*)

Why were the people afraid of Goliath? (*He was big and tall.*)

Who told King Saul he could win the battle against Goliath? (*David*)

Why did David think he could win against Goliath? (*He knew God was victorious. God had helped him win against fierce animals. David said the battle belonged to the Lord.*)

- What happened in the battle between David and Goliath? (*David won. Goliath was killed with a single stone.*)
- What does the word **victorious** mean? (*wins*)
- Who is always victorious? (*God*)
- In today's story, how did God show He is always victorious?

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?**



Faith

LESSON 2 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Help kids see the wonder of God's story and how it connects to their own story.

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Craft: Make a Slingshot

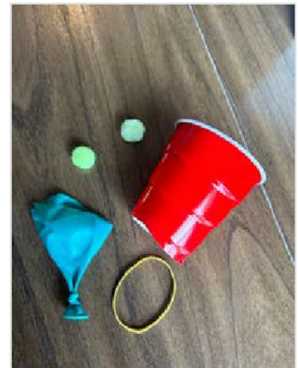
SUPPLIES: disposable cups (1 per kid), regular-sized balloons (1 per kid), clear packing tape, scissors (prep only), pom-poms or mini marshmallows (1 handful per kid), rubber bands (optional)

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: [Craft Sticker Labels](#) (optional), [David's Slingshot Picture](#) (optional)

Allergy Caution: Be aware of any latex or food allergies or sensitivities among your kids and volunteers before doing this activity!

Ahead of time, cut off the bottom of a plastic or paper disposable cup for each kid. Then cut off the tip of a balloon for each kid and tie the bottom of the uninflated balloon into a knot (just like you would if you had blown up the balloon) and cut off the other end. You can also print a copy of the [David's Slingshot Picture](#) to show the kids or display the picture digitally.

In our story today, we learned about how God gave a young boy named David victory over a big warrior! David didn't need a sword or armor for the battle—God allowed him to win the battle against the giant by using only a slingshot and a stone. God showed His strength and power by winning the victory in this story! We're going to make our own slingshots to remind us that God is always victorious!



9:00 Service

Give each kid a cup and a balloon. Encourage the kids to stretch the balloon over the cut end of their cups. Some kids may need help with this step. Put the rubber band around the cup so the balloon stays in place. The kids can then add a few pom-poms or mini marshmallows into their cup and gently pull on the knotted end of the balloon. The pom-poms or marshmallows should shoot up out of the cup.

To make it more fun, you can let kids play games with their slingshots. For instance, they could try to hit the boxes you used in the God's Big Story time to represent Goliath or try to pop the pom-poms or marshmallows into the air and then catch them again in their cups.

Instead of cup slingshots, you can show kids how to stretch a rubber band between their fingers like a slingshot. For another visual, you can also print the [David's Slingshot Picture](#) to show kids what David's slingshot may have looked like.

If the slingshots are distracting kids during the rest of your lesson time, set them aside and give them to kids as they are dismissed.





9:00 Service

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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Responding in Worship: God Gives Victory

SUPPLIES: cardboard boxes (at least 3); markers

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: music from the [Victory Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#)

Before you begin, stack several cardboard boxes. You can set out some handheld musical instruments if you want the kids to use them to accompany the music.

In God's big story today, we learned that God will always be victorious. God helped David win against Goliath. In this worship time, you can think of one problem God has helped you with or one way God has given you victory or helped you to be brave. You can also think of a big problem or fear in your life and remember that God is with you when you feel afraid. He will help you and give you victory! You can be strong and brave because God is on your side.

Imagine that the stack of cardboard boxes is like a giant problem or fear in your life. Use a marker to draw (or write) your problem or fear onto one of the boxes. Then we'll pray and thank God for helping us, and we'll knock down the boxes together as we remember that God is always victorious.

Allow the kids to use markers to write or draw their problems or fears on the boxes, then pray with the kids and thank God for His victory. Allow the kids to knock down the tower of boxes together (or to take turns knocking it down). After knocking down the boxes, turn on some music from the [Victory Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#) and allow the kids to worship by singing and dancing or by playing instruments along with the songs.

9:00 Service

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.