

Week 43 David & Goliath [1 Samuel 17:1-53]

Series: **David**

Application: **When you are struggling for God, He is with you.**

Memory Verse: **“The Lord is King for ever and ever.” Psalm 10:16.**

Preparation Notes

The Philistines and the Israelites were at war again. The Philistine army occupied one hill, the Israelites occupied the other, and the valley lay in-between them. Sometimes opposing armies would suggest a fight between a representative from each side instead of a full blown battle. The philistines had a strong champion called Goliath. He was over nine feet tall, wore bronze armour and carried a bronze javelin and a huge spear. Goliath challenged the Israelites to send one of their men to fight him. Whichever side lost would have to serve the winning side. Saul and his army were terrified. They knew they had no men who could match Goliath’s strength. For forty days, Goliath challenged the Israelites.

Jesse’s three eldest sons had gone to war with Saul. Jesse told David to take some food to his brothers at the camp and to find out how they were doing. The next morning he set out as his father had directed and reached the camp just as they were getting into position and shouting the battle cry. As David ran to meet his brothers he heard Goliath shouting. When the Israelites heard him they all ran from him in fear.

David realised that Goliath was dishonouring God and he said, “Who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?” David was overheard and was taken to Saul. He told Saul that he would go and fight Goliath. Saul refused to let him, saying that he was only a boy and Goliath had been a fighting man from his youth. David explained how he’d had to fight lions and bears to protect his father’s sheep and how God had helped him. He said that God would deliver him from Goliath just as He had when he’d been protecting the sheep.

Saul eventually said to David “Go and the Lord be with you!” Saul dressed David in his own tunic and gave him a coat of armour to wear, but David wasn’t used to them and so he took them off.

He took his staff in his hand and found five smooth stones from the stream, put them in his bag, and with his sling in his hand he approached Goliath.

When Goliath saw that David was only a boy, he shouted “Am I a dog that you come at me with sticks?” and he cursed David by his gods.

David told Goliath that he came in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel who Goliath had defied. He told him that today he would strike him down and cut off his head so that everyone would know that it is not by the sword or the spear that the Lord saves.

David reached into his bag, took out a stone and slung it. It hit Goliath on the forehead and he fell face-down on the ground. David drew Goliath's sword, killed him and cut off his head with it. When the Philistines saw that Goliath was dead, they turned and ran away with the Israelites chasing them! Many Philistines were killed that day.

Learning Points (Discoverers 1)

- Goliath was much bigger and stronger than David, but David trusted in God.
- God used David to kill Goliath and rescue the Israelites from the Philistines..

Learning Points (Discoverers 2&3)

- Goliath was a strong fighter and David was only a boy, but David trusted in God.
- God used David to rescue the Israelites from the Philistines.
- David wanted the whole world to know that the battle was the Lord's!

Discoverers 1

Bible Bit.

Activity.

Discoverers 2

Bible Bit.

Use DWK 43:1 to demonstrate how big Goliath was compared to David. You could also try measuring everyone if you have time.

Activity.

Using DWK 43:2, make a collage of David and Goliath.

Discoverers 3

Bible Bit.

Make sure that the children understand that David wasn't being a martyr, nor was he seeking to bring glory to himself. His main concern was that Goliath was being offensive to God and shouldn't be allowed to continue.

Activity.

Make the heart shaped sweets for the sweet boxes made last week using the recipe in DWK 43:3

Talk time.

- We are unlikely to ever be in David's position, but what other situations might we find ourselves in where we have to trust God to help us in battle?

Prayer.