



K-1st Lesson

Review

In our last lesson, God told the prophet Samuel to go to the town of Bethlehem and see a man named Jesse. This man had eight sons, and God had chosen one of them to be the next king of Israel.

- Samuel saw Eliab, the oldest son, first and thought he would be the king. Why did he think that? *Eliab was tall and strong.*

- Samuel was looking at the outward appearance. He thought Eliab looked good on the outside. But what did God say he looked at? *The inside, the heart.*

Seven of Jesse's sons walked by Samuel, but God said no to all of them. Finally, Jesse sent for his youngest son, and God told Samuel that he would be the new king.

- What was the name of this son? *David.*

Right! David had a heart after God's. He loved God and wanted the same things God wanted. So God chose David to be the next king of Israel.

David Serves the King

God let Saul be the king for a while longer, so David didn't become king right away. But his life began to change.

Refer to Lesson 75 Flip Chart. Do you remember how Saul sinned against God? His bad choices led to terrible consequences. God took the kingdom away from him. But even worse than that, God took his Spirit away from Saul and sent a harmful spirit that troubled him.

Saul's servants noticed that he was troubled, so they told him, "There is a young man who could come and play music for you to help you feel better. He is also brave and courageous, and the Lord is with him."

Show Illustration #1. In this picture, we see a person playing a lyre. It looks a lot like a small harp. King Saul's servants said that the young

man they were talking about knew how to play a lyre very well.

- Saul listened to his servants and sent for the young man. Any guesses who he was? *Allow guesses.*

1 Samuel 16:19

Refer to the Books of the Bible Poster. Let's find out! 1 Samuel chapter 16 tells us who came to play the lyre for the king. Have the student bring up the Bible and open it to the sticky note. Read 1 Samuel 16:19.

It was David, Jesse's youngest son! Now David would work for King Saul, playing music for him. But he traveled back and forth from King Saul's house to his father's house so he could still watch the sheep for his father.

Taking care of the sheep was important. Although David was a young man, about 17 years old now, he could take good care of his father's flock. Whenever bears or lions tried to come and take a sheep or a lamb, God helped David fight them and win!

Show Illustration #2. One of the ways David protected the flock was by using a sling. He would put a stone in the sling and throw it at the animal that was trying to take one of his sheep. The stone would fly through the air—super fast—and strike the animal down!

Show Illustration #3. This kind of sling was different than the slingshot toys you might see today.

We don't have a sling like David's, but let's pretend this target on the wall is a lion, and we have to throw these beanbags at it to make it go away. Let's see how well we can hit the target. Tape the Target Sheets together and attach the finished poster to the wall. Choose several volunteers or the whole class to line up a few feet from the target. Allow each student to throw one beanbag at the target. Keep track of whose beanbag comes the closest to the bullseye in the middle.

You all did a great job! Let's go back to our lesson now and find out how David used his sling later when the enemy came to fight.

David Fights the Giant

It wasn't long before a battle broke out between Israel and their enemies, the evil Philistines. King Saul led the army of Israel and camped on a hill. And right across the valley on another hill was the Philistine army.

Three of David's older brothers joined King Saul's army and went to battle. So David's father

sent him to the camp to take food and supplies and see how his brothers were doing. While David was there, he heard someone shouting. David went out to see who it was.

1 Samuel 17:4, 17:24

Let's find out who David saw in 1 Samuel chapter 17. Read verses 4 and 24.

- Who was shouting? What was his name? 1 Samuel 17:4. *Goliath of Gath.*

This guy was a giant! He was nearly 10 feet tall! That's taller than your dad. If Goliath came into our room, he would have to bend over just to get through the door!

- What did the Israelites think of Goliath? 1 Samuel 17:24. *They were afraid and fled.*

That's right! The Israelites were afraid of Goliath. He was the champion of the Philistine army, and the Israelite soldiers all ran away from him.

Refer to the Lesson Flip Chart. Goliath was tall and strong and wore heavy armor from his head down to his legs! He carried a throwing spear, called a javelin, on his back—plus he had another huge spear and a sharp sword.

Goliath came out and shouted at the Israelite army, "I dare you to send someone out to fight me!" He wanted a one-on-one fight between himself and a brave Israelite soldier. The army of the loser would become the slaves of the army of the winner. Goliath was sure he would win.

By daring the Israelites to fight, Goliath was making fun of them and of God. Goliath wanted to see if the Israelites really believed that their God was more powerful than he was. But the Israelites were too scared to fight Goliath! He was so big and strong. Even his weapons were much bigger and better than theirs!

David heard Goliath and knew he was mocking God. David knew someone had to stop Goliath. It wasn't long before David stood in front of King Saul and said, "I will go and fight this Philistine."

At first Saul thought David was too young to fight someone like Goliath. But David told Saul how God always helped him protect his sheep from lions and bears. And he believed God would help him strike down the giant, too. Saul finally said David could go and gave him armor and weapons to take with him. But David wasn't used to those, so he decided to take something else.

- What do you think he took with him? *Allow guesses.*

1 Samuel 17:40

Let's read about what David took into battle with him. Read the verse.

- What weapons did David choose to take to fight Goliath? *Staff, five smooth stones, and his sling.*

Refer to the Flip Chart. Right! David took the weapons he always used as a shepherd. He knew how to use them very well. David walked bravely toward Goliath. He stopped and bent down at the stream and picked out five stones to use in his sling.

The giant man cursed and shouted at David when he saw him coming with just his shepherd's staff and sling. Compared to Goliath and his strong, shiny armor and weapons, David looked like he didn't have a chance!

But David knew who would win this fight. He was trusting God to win. "The battle is the Lord's," David shouted at Goliath, "and he will give you into our hand!"

- Who thinks Goliath the Philistine will win? *Show of hands.*

- Who thinks David will win? *Show of hands.*

1 Samuel 17:48-49

The battle had begun. Listen to this. Read the verses.

- Refer to the Flip Chart. Who won the fight? *David.*

Yes, David won! Hooray! Have students shout "hooray" with you.

- How many stones did it take for David to knock down Goliath? *Just one.*

Refer to Illustration #3. Remember, David was very good with a sling. Back in Bible times, slings were important weapons, not just toys like we have today. A stone from a sling could fly at 60 miles per hour! That's fast—like a car driving on a freeway.

- Where did David's stone hit the giant? *In the forehead.*

A perfect shot! David was good with a sling, but he knew it was God who made the stone hit just right. When the Philistine army saw that their champion giant was dead, they all started to run away. King Saul led his army after them, and God helped them win the battle that day.

David
TRUSTED
GOD
to win the fight.

