



BASED ON 1 SAMUEL 17

FACING YOUR GIANT



A DAVID & GOLIATH
CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE
FOR AGES 11-14

How to Use This Book

Welcome to an adventure where YOU become David!

How it works:

- Start at Section 1
- Read each section carefully
- When you reach a choice, decide what YOU would do
- Jump to the section number your choice sends you to
- Some paths lead to victory, some to defeat, and some to "what might have been"

Tips:

- You can read this alone or with a group (vote on choices together!)
- Try different paths to see how the story changes
- There are 6 different endings—can you find them all?
- Keep your Bible open to 1 Samuel 17 as you read

Remember: David won because he trusted that "the battle is the Lord's" (1 Samuel 17:47)

The Valley of Elah

Section 1

You are David, a teenager who spends most of your time watching sheep and worshipping God with your harp. One day your father Jesse sends you with food for your brothers who are soldiers in King Saul's army, camped in the Valley of Elah.

When you arrive, you hear a roar from across the valley: a giant warrior named Goliath steps out from the Philistine camp, covered in armor and weapons, and he taunts Israel's army and mocks the living God.

The soldiers around you are terrified, and no one steps forward to fight. Something burns inside you because you know God is greater than any giant.

What do you do?

- If you keep your head down and stay quiet, go to **Section 2**.
- If you start asking questions about Goliath and the reward for defeating him, go to **Section 3**.

Blending In

Section 2

You decide this is not your problem. You put the food down and tell yourself, *“I’m just a kid. Let the real soldiers deal with this.”* You hang back, watching your brothers and King Saul do nothing, day after day.

After a while, Goliath’s words don’t shock you anymore. The insults toward God start to feel *“normal.”* You leave camp and go back to the sheep, always wondering what might have happened if someone had trusted God enough to step forward.

END 1 – “The Safe Choice”

- You avoided danger, but you also missed seeing what God could do through you.
- Want to try again? Go back to **Section 1** and make a different choice!

Asking Questions

Section 3

You begin asking the soldiers, *“Who is this Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God? What will be done for the man who kills him?”* They tell you that the king has promised a reward and great honor to whoever defeats Goliath.

Your oldest brother hears you talking and gets angry. He accuses you of being proud and just wanting to watch the battle. You know your motives aren't perfect, but you also know your heart burns for God's honor.

How do you respond?

- If you back down because of your brother's anger and stop talking, go to **Section 4**.
- If you keep talking to others about God's power and what He can do, go to **Section 5**.

Shut Down by Criticism

Section 4

Your brother's harsh words sting. You decide it's easier not to cause trouble. You go quiet, and you stop asking questions. No one hears about your faith in God, and the army stays paralyzed by fear.

You pack up and go home later that day. The story of the valley becomes one more moment where fear spoke louder than faith. You still love God, but you missed the chance to see what He could do through you.

END 2 – “The Silenced Voice”

- Sometimes staying silent feels safer, but courage means speaking up even when criticized.
- Want to try again? Go back to **Section 1** or **Section 3!**

Faith That Speaks Up

Section 5

You don't let your brother's anger stop you. You keep talking to other soldiers about God's power and about the times God helped you protect the sheep from lions and bears. Word gets to King Saul, and soon you're standing in front of the king himself.

Saul looks at you and sees a teenager, not a warrior. He says, "You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him; you are only a young man." You reply that God delivered you from the lion and the bear and that He can deliver you from this giant too.

Saul finally agrees to let you go.

Now Saul offers his royal armor for you to wear. It is heavy, unfamiliar, and made for a man much bigger than you.

What do you do?

- If you accept Saul's armor and try to fight in it, go to **Section 6**.
- If you refuse the armor and choose to face Goliath with your sling and staff, trusting how God has already trained you, go to **Section 7**.

Fighting in the Wrong Armor

Section 6

You put on Saul's helmet and armor and strap his sword to your side. As you try to walk, everything feels heavy and awkward. You can barely move, but everyone expects a warrior to look like this.

You step onto the battlefield. Goliath laughs when he sees you stumbling in armor that doesn't fit. You try to swing the sword, but you're too slow. The story ends quickly and badly. You went into battle, but not in the way God had prepared you.

END 3 – “The Uncomfortable Armor”

- God prepares you in specific ways. Trying to be someone else—even with good intentions—won't work.
- Want to try again? Go back to Section 5 and choose differently!

Using What God Gave You

Section 7

You tell Saul, *“I cannot go in these, because I am not used to them.”* You take off the armor and pick up your shepherd’s staff. Then you go down to the brook and choose five smooth stones, placing them in your shepherd’s bag, with your sling in hand.

You step into the valley. Goliath sees you and is insulted that they sent a youth with a stick. He curses you by his gods and threatens to kill you.

How do you respond?

- If you let his words sink in and start doubting, go to **Section 8.**
- If you declare your faith in God out loud, go to **Section 9.**

Overwhelmed by Intimidation

Section 8

You look at Goliath's size, armor, and weapons. His words echo in your mind. Your heart races, and your hands shake. You start to question whether you really heard God right. Maybe you just got carried away.

You turn back and run toward the Israelite camp. No one chases you, but the shame is heavy. Goliath continues to mock God, and the army remains in fear. You live, but you never forget the moment you let fear win.

END 4 – “The Runaway”

- Fear feels overwhelming when we focus on the giant instead of on God.
- Want to try again? Go back to **Section 7** and choose faith!

Speaking Faith in the Valley

Section 9

You stand your ground and say to Goliath, “*You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty.*” You tell him that the battle is the Lord’s and that God will give victory so that everyone will know there is a God in Israel.

The giant moves toward you.

What do you do?

- If you walk slowly and carefully, planning every step, go to **Section 10**.
- If you run quickly toward the battle line with confidence in God, go to **Section 11**.

Holding Back

Section 10

You move forward, but cautiously. You overthink every step. You hesitate before placing a stone in your sling, wondering if you should aim differently, throw later, or wait to get closer.

Your hesitation gives Goliath time. He closes the distance faster than you expected. You panic and throw wildly. The stone misses, and you barely escape with your life. You believed in God, but you didn't fully act on that faith when it counted.

END 5 – “Half-Hearted Faith”

- Faith isn't just believing—it's acting on what you believe, even when you're scared.
- Want to try again? Go back to Section 9 and run with courage!

Running Toward the Giant

Section 11

You hurry and run toward the battle line to meet Goliath. As you run, you reach into your bag, take out a stone, place it in your sling, and swing it with all your strength and trust in God.

The stone flies through the air and strikes Goliath on the forehead. He falls face down to the ground. With no sword in your hand, you run up, take Goliath's own sword, and finish the battle. The Philistine army runs in fear, and Israel surges forward with new courage.

Everyone sees that the victory did not come from human strength, but from the Lord.

END 6 – “Faith That Wins”

- When you trust God and act in faith, He shows up in powerful ways!
- Congratulations! You made it to the best ending. Want to explore other paths? Go back to **Section 1!**

All the Endings

How many endings have you discovered? Check them off as you find them!

- **END 1 – "The Safe Choice"**: Staying silent and missing the opportunity
- **END 2 – "The Silenced Voice"**: Being shut down by criticism and giving up
- **END 3 – "The Uncomfortable Armor"**: Trying to fight in someone else's way
- **END 4 – "The Runaway"**: Being overwhelmed by fear and running away
- **END 5 – "Half-Hearted Faith"**: Believing but not acting with full courage
- **END 6 – "Faith That Wins"**: Trusting God completely and seeing victory

Challenge: Can you find all 6 endings? Try different paths and see how David's choices changed everything!

Memory Verse: 1 Samuel 17:47 (NIV)

"All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the Lord saves; for the battle is the Lord's and he will give all of you into our hands."

David's Five Smooth Stones

David picked up five smooth stones from the brook. Here are FIVE truths you can carry when facing your giants:

- **STONE 1: Remember God's Past Help**
 - Like David remembered the lion and bear, think about times God has helped you before.
- **STONE 2: Speak Faith Out Loud**
 - David declared God's power. Don't keep your faith silent—speak it!
- **STONE 3: Use What God Gave You**
 - Don't try to be someone else. God has already prepared you in unique ways.
- **STONE 4: Don't Listen to Fear**
 - Move toward the problem with God, not away from it.
- **STONE 5: Trust That the Battle is the Lord's**
 - You're not fighting alone. God fights with you and for you.

What Are YOUR Giants?

.....
Write down some "giant problems" you're facing right now:

.....
.....

Now write this truth over each one:
THE BATTLE IS THE LORD'S

Discussion Questions

Use these to think deeper about David's story (great for small groups or journaling):

1. Which ending did you reach first? How did that feel?
2. Where in the story was it hardest for David (or you) to trust God?
3. How is Goliath like the "giants" (fears, pressures, temptations) you face at school, online, or at home?
4. What are some "Saul's armor" things in your life—ways you're trying to fight battles in someone else's way instead of how God has gifted you?
5. What does this story show about God's power compared to our weakness?

Prayer

Dear God,

Thank You that I don't have to face my giants alone.
Thank You that the battle is Yours, not mine. Help me
to be brave like David—not because I'm strong, but
because You are strong.

Give me courage to trust You this week when things
feel too big. Help me to remember that You are greater
than any giant I face.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Read the full story in your Bible: 1 Samuel 17

"The battle is the Lord's!"

Created for ages 11–14 | Based on 1 Samuel 17



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David's story isn't just about a giant in a valley.

It's about a God who is bigger than fear, pressure, and problems that feel impossible.

Inside, you'll:

- Read and live the story of David and Goliath
- Make choices that lead to six different endings
- Discover what it means that "the battle is the Lord's"
- Think about the giants you're facing right now

Scripture basis:

1 Samuel 17

Recommended age:

11-14

"The battle is the Lord's."

1 Samuel 17:47

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