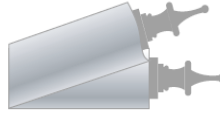




CHURCH EDUCATION

The Holy Bible
The Book of Mormon



'...and they shall become one in thine hand.' Ezekiel 37.17

Lesson Title – David and Goliath

UNIT 6 - Evidence of Authority and Establishing the Church

Grades 1-3

Materials:

- The Holy Bible: I Samuel 16:1-13, 17:1-51
- Large construction paper
- Markers and crayons
- The Songs of Zion, # 42: *Too Small for Great Things*
- See **F. Activities/Craft/Game** for materials needed

Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- retell major events from David's life.
- list heroic characteristic displayed by David.
- identify that fact that even if they are young or small, they can do important things for God.

Procedure:

A. Motivation/Introduction

1. Ask, "Have you ever been told you were too young or too small to do something?"
2. "How did it make you feel?" "Have you ever heard the song, *Too Small for Great Things*, (but satisfied)?"
3. Explain, "Today, we will learn about a young boy, who because of his faith in God, did really great things."

B. Lesson Development

1. Begin by telling the story of David.

David was a young man who had several older brothers. His job was to take care of his father's sheep. He loved God very much and always tried to do what was right in the sight of God. While watching his sheep, many ferocious animals would try to kill them. God gave David the strength and wisdom to overcome these ferocious animals.

David's brothers were away from home fighting a war against the Philistine army. David was asked by his father to take food to his brothers. David was excited to go. He was not afraid.

2. Ask, "How would you feel if you were asked to go to a place where a war was happening?"

3. Continue with the story.

When David got to where his brothers were, the army of Israel was on one mountain and the army of the Philistines was on another mountain across the valley. The Philistines had a great giant named Goliath who was their champion. Goliath was nearly ten feet tall. (Try to find a way to show how tall Goliath was. Measure ten feet on the wall or floor and have a student stand or lie next to the measurement.)

4. Continue with the story.

Goliath wore a helmet of brass and armor on his body. He carried a sword and had a shield. The Philistines told the Israelites to choose one man to fight Goliath. If the Israelites won, then the Philistines would be their servants. If they lost, then they would become servants to the Philistines.

There were no giants in the army of Israel, so what could they do? No one wanted to fight against Goliath. Every morning and every evening for 40 days, Goliath came out and challenged the army of Israel. While David was talking to his brothers, the giant came out. He saw that no one from Saul's army went to meet the giant. Many ran away in fear.

5. Ask, "Why do you think no one volunteered to fight Goliath?" "What do you think about David's brothers?"

6. After several responses, ask, "What do you think will happen next?"

7. Continue with the story.

David wondered why the Lord's people were afraid. David said that he would fight Goliath. David was very brave. His brothers tried to talk him out of fighting Goliath, but someone told King Saul and he sent for David.

Although David was not a warrior, only a shepherd boy, he remembered how God had come to his rescue when he was protecting his flock from a fierce lion and then from a ferocious bear. David thought that the giant would be just like the animals, which tried to harm him because Goliath was defying the army of the Lord. Saul gave David his armor,

but it was too big, and David would not wear it. With only his shepherd's staff, his sling, and a bag full of five smooth stones, he went out to meet the giant.

8. Ask, "Do you think God will help David, like he did before?"
9. Allow each child to respond. Then finish the story.

The giant was angry when he saw little David and threatened to kill him and give his body to the birds of the air and the beasts of the field to eat. David was not afraid and said that God would help him fight. David had great faith. Goliath ran toward David and David did not turn back. When he was close enough, David took one of the stones from his bag, put it in his slingshot and hurled it at Goliath. The stone struck Goliath in the forehead so hard that he fell to the earth. When the Philistines saw that their hero was dead they became frightened and ran away.

10. Discuss David's victory. Elaborate on the fact that David's faith and trust in God led to his success.
11. Identify the character traits that David displayed that would be pleasing to God. Faith, courage, integrity, sincerity, and humility (he wouldn't use Saul's armor only his sling).
12. Ask an older student to portray Goliath, and have the students reenact the battle against Goliath. Be sure to give all students the opportunity to portray David.
13. Conclude by restating the fact that David was young and not big compared to the other soldiers, yet he was able to defeat Goliath.
14. Review again why he was successful.

C. Assessment

1. Have students recall the major events in the story regarding David's life. (He protected the flock from a lion and a bear and he fought and conquered Goliath.)
2. After the review with the class, have them take a large piece of paper and fold it into four sections.
3. Across the top of each section, have them write one of the heroic characteristics displayed by David. (Brave, Faith, Humility, Protection)
4. Have students illustrate the major events from the story, one event per section.

Life Application

1. Have the children brainstorm ways that they can do important things for God. The list might include telling others about times that God healed them or answered their prayers, inviting friends to Church, helping their parents.
2. Discuss how those are all "big/great" things.
3. Allow time for children to share the things they have done that were "BIG/GREAT".
4. Sing the hymn, *Too Small for Great Things*.

D. Memory Verse

Daniel 16:6, "...surely the Lord's anointed is before him."

E. Activities/Craft/Game

Using construction paper crumbled into balls, have students try to “hit” a Goliath target.