David Meets Goliath

Scripture: 1 Samuel 17:1-24, 31-50
Bible Memory: Proverbs 17:17
   “A friend loves you all the time.” (ICB)
   “A friend loveth at all times.” (KJV)
Focus: God helps us to be brave.

Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion

David was so confident in his God! The enemy’s size, his own size, King Saul’s level of confidence in him—none of these mattered to David. What mattered to David was the power of his God. David knew God was with him. You can have this same confidence. God helps us to be brave in the face of uncertain, difficult situations. What “giant” are you facing today? Trust God to give you the confidence you need to stand before it.

Bible Background for the Teacher

King Saul’s army was at war with a longtime enemy, the Philistines, on a battlefield about 15 miles west of Bethlehem. The Philistines’ champion warrior, Goliath, was over 9 feet tall. Young David, who was in camp to bring supplies to his brothers, stepped up to accept the enemies’ challenge: winner takes all. The sling David used was probably a wide piece of leather with a long strip of leather or cord of goat’s hair tied to each end.

Lesson 2 at a Glance

1 GETTING STARTED
Use one or more of these learning centers to help children explore who David was.

Quick Step
Who Is David?
How Many Brothers?
David’s Food

HeartShaper Materials
- Resources sheet 1 David and Goliath activity cards 2a–2d, 2g, 2h

Other Materials
- none

2 BIBLE DISCOVERY
Use all these activities to help children tell how God helped David.

Sing and Pray
Bible Time
David Meets Goliath
Bible Review
Bible Memory

Sing and Pray
- Resources CD, Resources sheet 1 David and Goliath activity cards 2a–2h, Resources CD Unit 1 Bible Memory Motions printable file

Other Materials
- CD player, Bible, paper lunch bag

3 GROW AND GO
Use one or more of these learning centers to help children name ways God helps them to be brave.

Quick Step
People Who Help
Bible Memory Collage (unit center)

“Brave for God” Flags
Closing the Hour

Other Materials
- whiteboard, dry-erase markers
- prepared Bible Memory unit center posters, heart stickers
- blunt-tip scissors, washable markers, drinking straws, tape
- none
Getting Started (10–15 minutes)

1. Use one or more of these learning centers to help children explore who David was.

Welcome

- Use a Scout puppet to greet the children.
- Place a name tag on each child, gather necessary information from the adult bringing the child; then guide the child to a learning center.
- Provide a container in which children can place their offering money.

Quick Step  Who Is David?

SAY: Today we are going to learn how God helped a young man named David to be brave. ☼ God helps us to be brave too. Let’s find out more about David. Talk about each picture. David had to find grass for the sheep to eat. He used a slingshot to protect the sheep from enemies, like bears and lions. David played a harp. David ate lunch in the field with the sheep. Shuffle the cards. Have each child draw a card and tell something about David pictured on the card.

ASK: What does it mean to be brave? (You show courage. You are not afraid to try and do difficult things.) How was David brave when he cared for the sheep?

Especially for 4s!

Tell something about David based on one of the cards, and then have a child select which card you are talking about.

How Many Brothers?

Before class, draw a boy’s face at the top of each craft stick.

SAY: Today’s Bible story is about how God helped David to be a brave young man. ☼ God helps us to be brave. David had seven brothers. Let’s make puppets to look like David and his brothers.

Guide children to add fabric for headdresses and clothes to eight sticks, attached with rubber bands. Have them count their puppets. Provide bags for children to store their puppets. (Note: If time doesn’t allow children to do eight, have them do David and Goliath. Make the face for Goliath look angry.)

ASK: Who are your craft stick men? (David and his brothers) Did David have a big or small family?

David’s Food

Before class, cut the bread and cheese slices into quarters.

SAY: Today we are learning how God helped a young man named David to be brave. ☼ God helps us to be brave too. David took some bread and cheese to his brothers who were in an army. Let’s make a snack like David took to his brothers. We can pretend we are feeding an army of people.

Have children wash their hands. Give children bread and cheese slices to assemble sandwiches. If serving the sandwiches later, help the children place the sandwiches in plastic bags.

ASK: What kind of food did David and his brothers eat? (bread and cheese) What else do you know about David? (He was brave. He played a harp. He watched sheep.)

Focus

☼ God helps us to be brave.

Save all visuals for reuse throughout the quarter.

Materials

Resources sheet 1 David and Goliath activity cards 2a–2d, 2g, 2h

Teaching Tip

Activity cards 2e King Saul and 2f Goliath will be used during the Bible Time.

Materials

jumbo craft sticks, extra fine-tip permanent marker (or crayons), scraps of fabric, small rubber bands, resealable plastic bags

Adding texture to any craft or activity enhances learning for children who learn through touch or those with a visual impairment.

Materials

bread, cheese slices, knife, paper towels (optional: resealable plastic bags)

Teaching Tip

Serve the snack after the Bible story or during transition time. Be aware of any food allergies.

Cleanup

Guide children to clean. Give a reluctant child a specific job to do.
Focus

❤️ God helps us to be brave.

Materials

- Resources CD tracks 3 and 4, CD player, Bible

Bible Discovery (20–25 minutes)

1. Use all these activities to help children tell how God helped David.

Sing and Pray

Sing “God Is Always with Me” and “A Friend Loves You.”

PRAY: God, please help us to be brave, even when we are afraid. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Bible Time

As you show each card, have children finish your sentence by saying what or who is pictured. Show 2a. SAY: This is David. David liked music; he played a (show 2b) harp. One day David was watching his father’s (2c) sheep. David’s seven brothers were away in the army of (2e) King Saul. David’s father asked David to take some (2d) cheese and bread to David’s brothers.

When David got to the army, he saw a soldier named (2f) Goliath. Goliath was in the enemy’s army. He was over 9 feet tall and very strong. Goliath said if anyone could beat him, then (2e) King Saul’s army would be the winner. No one wanted to fight Goliath because he was so big.

(2a) David said, “I will fight Goliath.”

(2e) King Saul said, “You are too small.”

(2a) David told the king how God had helped him protect his sheep from (2g) a lion and a bear. David knew God would help him fight Goliath.

David took his (2h) sling and five stones and went to meet (2f) Goliath. Goliath laughed at David and said that he was too little to win.

(2a) David said, “This battle is God’s. He will win.” David used his (2h) sling and threw one stone at Goliath. Pretend to do so. Show 2f. The stone hit Goliath in the head; Goliath fell down and died.

(2e) King Saul’s army had won. Lead class in shouting “Hurrah!” Show 2a. Was David too small? Allow response. No! David was brave. ❤️ God helps us to be brave, just like He helped David.

Bible Review

Place the cards in the bag. Have children take turns selecting a card and telling how the pictured person or item was part of the story.

ASK: How did David show he was brave? (David fought Goliath.)

What were some of David’s jobs when he had to be brave? (took care of sheep, protected sheep against wild animals, took food to his brothers, fought against an enemy)

Who helped David to be brave? (God)

Bible Memory Proverbs 17:17

Before class, print and display the motions from the CD.

Show Proverbs 17:17. SAY: David was a friend to King Saul and to his brothers. Sometimes when we are friends, we have to be brave like David. Let’s say our Bible Memory together. Do so while reviewing the motions.
Grow and Go (15–20 minutes)

Focus

- God helps us to be brave.

Quick Step People Who Help

SAY: David was brave. God helps us to be brave too. One way God helps us is by giving us people who help us. Let’s name some people who help us to be brave. I’ll write the names on the board as you name the people.

Write the names on the board as children name people who help them. (Examples: parents, older siblings, police officers, firefighters, teachers)

Let’s pray and thank God for giving us others to help us. Guide the children to pray for specific individuals.

ASK: Who helps you to be brave?
- What are some ways God helps us to be brave? (He gives us people. He answers our prayers.)

Bible Memory Collage (unit center)

SAY: Let’s say our Bible Memory from Proverbs 17:17. Do so. A friend loves us. God loves us too. God helps us to be brave because He loves us. Let’s remember times when God has helped us to be brave. Let’s put hearts on our second Bible Memory poster to show how many times God has helped us to be brave.

Tell the children about a time when God helped you to be brave, and place a heart on the poster that says “loves.” As the children share times God has helped them, give them hearts to adhere to the poster.

ASK: How does God help us to be brave?
- When is a time you can to be brave?

“Brave for God” Flags

SAY: Today we learned that God helped David to be brave. God helps us to be brave too. No matter where we are or what we are doing, God helps us. Let’s make flags that can remind us of ways God helps us.

As children wave their flags, have them name ways God helps them to be brave.

ASK: How does God help you to be brave?
- Where will you put your flag to remind you that God helps you to be brave?

Especially for 4s!

Cut out the flags before class time. As children wave their flags, lead them around the room in a Be Brave parade.

Closing the Hour

- Be sure children who are leaving have their activity projects and this week’s Heart Tugs. Encourage parents to read and act out “Brave David” with their children. Note: A Family Together Time page is available online for families to download. See www.heartshaper.com.
David Meets Goliath

**Scripture:** 1 Samuel 17:1-24, 31-50

**Bible Memory:** Proverbs 17:17

“A friend loves you all the time.” (*ICB*)

“A friend loveth at all times.” (*KJV*)

**Focus:** God helps us to be brave.

**Heart to Heart Teacher Devotion**

David was so confident in his God! The enemy’s size, his own size, King Saul’s level of confidence in him—none of these mattered to David. What mattered to David was the power of his God. David knew God was with him. You can have this same confidence. God helps us to be brave in the face of uncertain, difficult situations. What “giant” are you facing today? Trust God to give you the confidence you need to stand before it.

**Bible Background for the Teacher**

King Saul’s army was at war with a long-time enemy, the Philistines, on a battlefield about 15 miles west of Bethlehem. The Philistines’ champion warrior, Goliath, was over 9 feet tall. Young David, who was in camp to bring supplies to his brothers, stepped up to accept the enemies’ challenge: winner takes all. The sling David used was probably a wide piece of leather with a long strip of leather or cord of goat’s hair tied to each end.

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**Lesson 2 at a Glance—Extra Hour**

1. **MORE! GETTING STARTED**
   - Use one or more of these learning centers to help children explore who David was.
   - **Quick Step**
     - Brave David
   - Getting to Know David
   - Where Are My Sheep?

2. **MORE! BIBLE DISCOVERY**
   - Use all these activities to help children tell how God helped David.
   - **More! Sing and Pray**
   - **Bible Time—Another Way!**
     - David Meets Goliath
   - **More! Bible Review**
   - **More! Bible Memory**
   - **Resources CD, Teaching Picture 2, Resources CD Unit 1 Bible Memory Motions printable file**

3. **MORE! GROW AND GO**
   - Use one or more of these learning centers to help children name ways God helps them to be brave.
   - **Quick Step**
     - Scout’s Brave Day
   - Be Brave Stones
   - Saying Good-bye
   - **Resources CD Be Brave Stones printable file**
   - **Heart Tugs issue 2**

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**Other Materials**

- building blocks, toy sheep, toy people
- white balloons, black permanent marker, rulers

**Additional Resources**

- CD player, Bible, prepared Bible Memory unit center posters
More! Getting Started (10–15 minutes)

1 Use one or more of these learning centers to help children explore who David was.

Transition Time

- Greet new arrivers, giving each a name tag.
- Have children take turns finishing this sentence: “I need to be really brave when I ______.”
- Follow your congregation’s policy for restroom breaks. If you prepared a bread and cheese snack during first hour, serve it now.

Quick Step Brave David

SAY: ♥ God helps us to be brave. Today we are going to learn a rhyme about David, whom God helped to be a king’s brave helper. I’ll say the words and you can repeat them. Then we’ll say the words and do some motions too.

Show children the pictured rhyme in Heart Tugs. Read each line and have children repeat it, doing the action.

ASK: What are some of the things David did? (protected sheep, played a harp, fought a giant)
What else do you know about David? (had seven brothers, trusted God to help him)

Getting to Know David

SAY: In today’s Bible story we will learn about a young man named David, whom God helped to be very brave. ♥ God helps us to be brave too. Let’s build with our blocks some things that represent David’s life.

Guide the children to use the blocks to build items that represent David. (Examples: build a sheep fence, stand blocks on end or line up toy people to represent an army, stack blocks as tall as a giant and then knock them over like Goliath tumbling over) Talk about David as children work.

ASK: What do you know about David? (was a shepherd who took care of sheep, went to visit the army, fought a giant)
What did you build with your blocks?

Where Are My Sheep?

Before class, draw sheep faces on blown-up balloons. Place several chairs in a circle, leaving an opening.

SAY: Last week we began learning about David, whom God helped to be very brave. ♥ God helps us to be brave too. One of David’s jobs was being a shepherd. He protected sheep from lions and bears. Sheep can be stubborn animals. Sometimes they go where they aren’t supposed to go. Let’s see if we can get our sheep into their sheep pen.

Using a ruler, show how to “herd” sheep from one side of the room into the “pen” of chairs. Have a helper act as a bear and try to scare the sheep.

ASK: Was it hard to get your sheep into the pen? What kept you from getting the sheep into the pen? (Sheep wanted to go other places. Bear tried to scare the sheep.)
What other things does a shepherd do for sheep? (feeds them, takes care of them)

Focus

♥ God helps us to be brave.

Save all visuals for reuse throughout the quarter.

Materials

Heart Tugs issue 2

Materials

building blocks, toy sheep, toy people

Use masking tape to outline the workspace of children who might need their boundaries defined. Some children also work better in small collaborative groups than in one large group.

Materials

white balloons, black permanent marker, rulers (or paint-stirring sticks)

Something More!

Use Scout, your sheepdog puppet, to help your “shepherds” herd their sheep into their pens.
Focus
❤️ God helps us to be brave.

More! Bible Discovery (20–25 minutes)

Materials
Resources CD track 3, CD player, Teaching Picture 2, Bible

Something More!
Place a 9’ paper strip on the floor. Let the children lie down and compare themselves next to it.

Teaching Tip
Remind children that they are never to throw rocks, even though David did, explaining that this was a time long ago when rocks were used in battles, and that little children don’t fight in battles.

More! Sing and Pray
Sing “God Is Always with Me.”
PRAY: Dear God, thank You for Your Bible that tells about David. Help us learn how You helped David to be brave. In Jesus’ name, amen.
Point to Goliath in the picture. Compare his size to David’s. SAY: Who is the tallest person you know? Let children discuss. Today we will talk about a soldier who was taller than any other soldier in the army. We can read this story from the Bible book of 1 Samuel, chapter 17. Show 1 Samuel 17.

Bible Time—Another Way!
Have the children perform each action after you. SAY: David was watching his father’s sheep (hold hand above eyes) when his father asked him to take some bread and cheese to his brothers (hold out hands, as though holding food), who were fighting in King Saul’s army.
When David got to the army campsite, he saw one of the enemy soldiers. Hand over eyes. His name was Goliath; he was over 9 feet tall. With hand over eyes, look up slowly.
Goliath was so tall and strong that no one wanted to fight him. Shake head no. Goliath said if anyone fought him and won, the battle would be over and King Saul’s army would be the winner. David listened to what Goliath had to say. Cup one hand behind your ear. David said he would fight Goliath. Nod head.
David got five stones (count to five, using your fingers) and his shepherd’s sling. Then he went to fight. Goliath (look up slowly) laughed at David. Goliath said David was too small to win.
David said, “This battle is God’s. He will win.” Applaud. SAY: Hurrah, God.
David threw the first stone. Pretend to throw a stone. The stone hit Goliath in the head, and he fell down and died. God helped David to be brave, and God helps us to be brave too. Applaud. SAY: Hurrah, God.

More! Bible Review
Repeat several motions from the story. Ask children to tell you which part of the story the motions represent. (Note: Some motions will have more than one answer.) Ask review questions as you perform motions.
ASK: What did David’s father tell him to do? (take food to his brothers in the army)
How did David win the battle? (David used a stone and slingshot. God helped David win the battle.)

More! Bible Memory Proverbs 17:17
Before class, print and display the motions from the CD. Ask the children what the posters from the unit center say. Have volunteers hold the two posters in sequence. Point to the words while you and the children say the words and do the motions. Help a child hold the Bible opened to Proverbs 17:17 and finish saying the verse. Repeat, asking children to say all the words and do the motions.
**More! Grow and Go (15–20 minutes)**

Use one or more of these learning centers to help children name ways God helps them to be brave.

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**Quick Step  Scout’s Brave Day**

Bring out Scout holding the flag. SAY: Scout, you have a Brave for God flag. Have you been brave? Scout nods his head and whispers to you.

Let’s tell the children, Scout. Use Scout as you tell the story.

Scout had to cross the meadow yesterday morning. The meadow was filled with bees. Scout isn’t afraid of one bee, but there were lots of them. He was scared! Scout nods his head.

In the afternoon, Scout went to visit the animal doctor. Scout usually likes to visit the doctor because he always gets a doggy treat, but this time Scout had to get a shot. He was scared! Scout nods.

At nighttime, Scout sleeps in a doggy bed all by himself. Usually, he sleeps just fine all by himself. But last night there was a thunderstorm, and Scout was scared! Scout nods.

To Scout: Scout, you are brave. Do you know why? Scout nods, whispers to you, and waves the flag. That’s right, Scout. Even though you were afraid yesterday, you did what you had to do. You crossed the meadow, you got your shot, and you slept all alone in your bed. Let’s clap for Scout, the brave dog. Have children do so. Sometimes it is hard to be brave, but we can pray and ask God to help us. God helps us to be brave.

ASK: How does God help you to be brave?
What can you say to God?

**Be Brave Stones**

Before class, make copies of the stones from the CD. Write “God helps me to be brave” on each paper plate and punch two holes at the top.

SAY: Let’s make some paper stones to help us remember the stones that David used in today’s story. God helps us to be brave.

Guide children to cut out and color five stones and glue them to the plates. Add yarn hangers, as illustrated. As the children work, talk about times when they are afraid. Remind them that God can help them to be brave.

ASK: When can you be brave?
How has God helped you to be brave?

*Especially for 4s!*♥

For younger children, cut out the paper stones before class. Then help them glue the stones to their paper plates.

**Good-bye**

- Have children take turns standing and telling about people they know who are brave.
- Be sure children have projects made in class and this week’s Heart Tugs. Encourage parents to read and act out “Brave David” with their children. Note: A Family Together Time page is available online for families to download. See www.heartshaper.com.

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**Focus**

♥ God helps us to be brave.

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**Materials**

Scout puppet, prepared flag from Make-n-Share for lesson 2

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**Resources**

CD Be Brave Stones printable file, paper plates, hole punch, scissors, crayons, glue sticks, yarn

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**Something More!**

Let children wad five pieces of gray construction paper. Print “God helps me to be brave” on a paper lunch bag, and let children put their “stones” in their bags.

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**Cleanup**

Visit each activity area with your Scout puppet. Let Scout whisper a helping job to each child. Praise the children for how they help.