LESSON 14

DAVID AND THE GIANT GOLIATH



Aim: **To show the children how God helped his servant David defeat a giant when it looked impossible.**

Scripture Reading: **1 Samuel 17:1–54**

Memory Verse: **Psalm 1:3**
He is like a tree planted by streams of water …

PRESENTING THE LESSON

STARTING POINT

As you know different people grow to different heights. Some people grow very tall; others remain short. **Show me the height of the tallest person you have ever seen. Show the class a maize stalk or a stick of about three meters long.** Have you ever seen anyone this tall?

MAIN POINTS OF THE LESSON

1. Goliath was as tall as this stick and, of course, much wider. He was a giant. He belonged to the tribe of the Philistines, who were at war with Israel. Every day he challenged the Israelites to come and fight him. But all the soldiers were terrified of him (17:1–11).
2. **Describe how David's father sent him to visit his elder brothers in the army camp and take them some food.** David heard Goliath's challenge to Israel and their God, and he saw how frightened King Saul's men were. He wondered why they were so afraid of this man who did not know the living God. He knew that even a huge giant is powerless against the power of God (17:17–25).
3. David's eldest brother tried to make him quiet. In the end King Saul heard that this young man was willing to fight the giant, and he sent for David. Saul did not think David had a chance against Goliath, who was an experienced warrior. But David told the king that he put his trust in God. **Show Picture 13 again.** As God had helped him to protect his sheep from wild animals, so God would help him to protect his people from that giant (17:26–37).
4. Saul offered David his own armour to protect him, but it was much too big and heavy. Instead, he simply went to the river and selected five stones for his sling (17:38–40).
5. **Show Picture 14.** See the differences between Goliath and David – in size, in armour and in weapons. Most importantly, Goliath was fighting against the living God, while David was his servant (17:45).
6. Goliath was very angry to see that Israel was sending a mere youth to fight him, and without any armour or serious weapon, too! David told Goliath he was the servant of the living victorious God (17:41–47).

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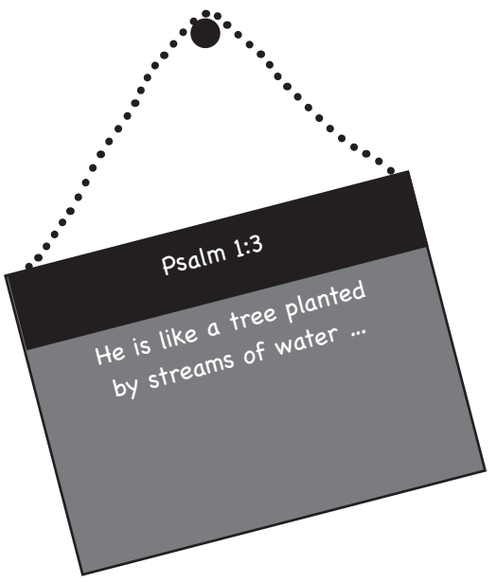
7. Tell the class how David triumphed over Goliath with a stone from his sling. When the Philistines saw that the giant was dead they fled. The Israelites won the battle and David kept Goliath's sword (17:48–54).

Our Response to the Story

We are often frightened of things that look very big or powerful. Goliath did not frighten David, even though he was large and appeared to be so powerful. David acted in the power of God to overcome Goliath. God has given us, his servants, the same power to overcome the attacks and temptations of evil (1 Cor 10:13).

Instil the Memory Verse

Review the verses of Psalm 1 the children have learnt so far.



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