

David was Anointed

Bible Passage: 1 Samuel 16-17

Memory Verse: ⁶No one is like you, LORD; you are great, and your name is mighty in power. **Jeremiah 10:6**

Bottom Line: I trust Jesus and follow Him because He forgives me.

Big Picture Question: Is anything or anyone greater than God? No, God is greater than everything.

Christ Connection: David did not look like a king or a mighty warrior, but God chose him to be king over Israel and gave him victory over Goliath. The Israelites were too weak and afraid to face Goliath; they needed David to fight on their behalf. In a similar way, though Jesus did not look like a warrior or king, we need Him to fight for us. Jesus gives us victory over sin and death.

10 Minutes SOCIAL: SETTING THE TONE OF THE EXPERIENCE

Fork it Over Minute to Win it

What You Need: 2 forks, 2 stacks of quarters (test to make sure they fit through the prongs of the fork) What You Do:

- Place an upside down fork on the end of a table for each team
- Separate kids into 2 teams.
- Each kid gets one minute to roll a quarter from the other end of the table in between the prongs of the fork..
- Kids will try to get quarters into each of the holes created by the prongs.
- Award 1 point to players who can successfully roll a quarter into a prong in under a minute. Each player can earn up to 3 points.

What You Say "This summer we are playing a different game each time you come to small group. As we play we should get to know each other's names and see if there is a way we can learn from our Bible story as well. It's time for large group, let's clean up and get ready to see what story we have today."

10 Minutes Worship: CELEBRATING WHAT GOD IS DOING

SONGS, OFFERING AND PRAYER

15 Minutes LARGE GROUP: COMMUNICATING GOD'S TRUTH IN ENGAGING WAYS

CONTEXT

Samuel had anointed Saul as king over Israel, but it wasn't long before Saul's disobedience led God to reject him as king. God sent Samuel to Bethlehem to meet Jesse—a man in the family line of Judah. God had chosen one of Jesse's sons to be Israel's king.

When Samuel saw Jesse's oldest son, Eliab, he thought, "This must be the one God has chosen!" Eliab was likely tall and good-looking. Why wouldn't God choose someone like that? But God doesn't make decisions like people do. Read what God said to Samuel in 1 Samuel 16:7.

Jesse's sons took turns passing before Samuel, one by one. Samuel was probably eager to hear which son God had chosen to be Israel's next king! Abinadab? No, not him. Shammah? No. "The Lord hasn't chosen this one either."

It seemed Samuel was out of options, but Jesse had one more son; his youngest, David, was out tending the sheep. David came in and God said, "This is the one." Samuel anointed David, and the Spirit of the Lord was with David.

David did not become king right away. Saul was still on the throne, and David was still young. One day, David found himself at the battle where the Philistines had gathered to fight the Israelites. The story of David and Goliath is one of the most well-known accounts in the Old Testament. When the Israelites cowered in fear, David—with God's power—stepped up and defeated the enemy with just a sling and a stone.



As you teach this week, help the kids relate to the terrified Israelites. Apart from Christ, we are powerless before our enemies of sin and death. None of us would step up like David. Even if we tried, we would fail on our own. David reminds us of Jesus, the greatest hero, who came to save us. When we look to Jesus, He gives us salvation and eternal life.

TEACHING FOCUS (1 Samuel 16-17)

Saul was the king of Israel, but he disobeyed God. So God chose a new king for Israel, a better king. God sent Samuel to Bethlehem to visit a man named Jesse. One of Jesse's sons would be Israel's next king. Jesse had eight sons. Jesse's oldest son was tall and handsome. When Samuel saw him, he thought, this must be the one God chose to be king.

But God told Samuel, "He's not the one. Do not pay attention to what he looks like. You look at what you can see on the outside, but I see the heart." One by one, Jesse's sons approached Samuel, but God had not chosen them either. "Do you have any more sons?" Samuel asked. "Yes," Jesse said. "My youngest son, David, is in the field taking care of the sheep." Jesse sent for David. When David arrived, God told Samuel, "He's the one!"

Samuel anointed David; he poured oil on David's head to show God had chosen him to be the king. The Spirit of the Lord was with David, and Samuel went back home.

When the Philistines gathered an army to fight Israel, King Saul got his army ready too. The Philistines had a great warrior named Goliath. Goliath shouted at the Israelites, "Send me your best man, and we'll fight one-on-one." But none of the Israelites wanted to fight Goliath. They were afraid of him. One day, Jesse told David to take food to the battlefield. David's brothers were in Israel's army. David saw Goliath and how the Israelites were so afraid. David turned to King Saul and said, "I'll fight him!" David had fought off lions and bears. He trusted God to keep him safe.

Saul offered his armor to David, but it was too heavy. Instead, David chose five smooth stones from a nearby stream and met Goliath armed only with the stones and a slingshot. Goliath made fun of David because he was a young boy, but David said, "You come to fight with a spear and sword, but I come to fight in the name of God! God always wins His battles!" David ran toward Goliath. He slung a rock and hit Goliath in the forehead. Goliath fell facedown, and David killed him. The Israelites won the battle, and the Philistines ran away.

Christ Connection: David did not look like a king or a mighty warrior, but God chose him to be king over Israel and gave him victory over Goliath. The Israelites were too weak and afraid to face Goliath; they needed David to fight on their behalf. In a similar way, though Jesus did not look like a warrior or king, we need Him to fight for us. Jesus gives us victory over sin and death.

TODAY'S TAKEAWAYS

- All Scripture is one story about how God loves us despite our sin.
- God reminded Samuel that God doesn't look at the outside the way people do. God looks into our hearts and sees us for who we really
 are. This king would fail the people so God sent us King Jesus who never fails us.
- Story also reminds us that Jesus will fight for us, similarly to how David fought for Israel. Just as the Israelites could not defeat Goliath, we cannot defeat our sin. That's why God sent Jesus. He defeated sin and death when He died for us and rose again.
- **BL:** I trust Jesus and follow Him because He forgives me.

25 Minutes SMALL GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT

Discussion Questions:

- Where did God send Samuel to find the next king of Israel? (*to the town of Bethlehem to a man named Jesse, 1 Sam. 16:1*)
- People see what is on the outside. What does God see? (*The Lord sees the heart, 1 Sam. 16:7*)
- When Goliath taunted David, how did David respond? ("*I come against you in the name of the LORD," I Sam. 17:45*)
- Why is it important that God sees our hearts? *Guide kids to discuss the idea that we cannot hide our sin from God. No matter how much we may try to be good, God knows that our hearts are dead in sin. God knows that we need Jesus to rescue us.*



- How was David similar to Jesus? *Guide kids to discuss David's role as a warrior who fought on behalf of His people. The Israelites faced a powerful enemy, and David defeated that enemy for them. Jesus fought for us and brings us victory through His death and resurrection.*
- How are we like the Israelites? Help the kids to see that the Israelites were cowering in fear. They were unwilling and unable to fight Goliath. When David defeated Goliath, the Israelites enjoyed the freedom and victory David won, even though they did not earn it. We benefit from Jesus' victory, even though we could not have earned it and do not deserve it.

Activity: Measuring Up

What You Need: tape measures, masking tape, pencil/marker, butcher paper with a mark for 9 feet 9 inches, What You Do:

- Lay the butcher paper on the floor.
- Use your measuring tape to show kids what 9 feet 9 inches looks like.
- Challenge kids to think of things that might be 9 feet 10 inches tall. (tree, fence, wall, basketball hoop)
- Use a tape measure to measure kids' heights as they lay on the floor on the butcher paper.
- Give each kid a piece of tape with their name and on it.
- Ask them to place their tape on the paper where they measured themselves.
- Point out which kid is the tallest.

What You Say The tallest person in recent history (Robert Wadlow) was just over 8 feet 11 inches tall. The Bible tells us about a man in the Philistine army who was 9 feet 9 inches tall! Would you go to battle against someone that big? The soldiers in Israel's army sure didn't want to. How many kids would be need to stack on top each other to be as tall as Goliath? What would you take to battle with you? What did David have? Why did He trust God? David trusted God because He Knew that He helped him protect his sheep against bears and lions. David did not look like a king or a mighty warrior, but God chose him to be king over Israel and gave him victory over Goliath. The Israelites were too weak and afraid to face Goliath; they needed David to fight on their behalf. In a similar way, though Jesus did not look like a warrior or king, we need Him to fight for us. Jesus gives us victory over sin and death. **BL: I trust Jesus and follow Him because He forgives me.**

Activity: Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Memory Verse Poster, Memory Verse Name Tags (printable -1 set per week) What You Do:

- Put one name tag on each kid.
- Challenge kids to work together to put themselves in order without speaking.
- Play a second round where they can speak.
- Then allow volunteers to say the verse from memory.
- Praise each kid's effort and encourage all the kids to continue working on the verse over the week.

What You Say "In this memory verse, God's Word tells us that no one is like Him. That means that no matter how strong, wise, kind, or powerful anyone else might be, God is stronger, wiser, kinder, and more powerful. Is anything or anyone greater than God? No, God is greater than everything and everyone."



Pray and Dismiss:

What You Need: no supplies needed

What You Say:

"Lord, You sent Jesus to save us from our greatest enemies: sin and death. Help us remember that the battle is not in our own hands. WE are like the Israelite army, too weak to save ourselves. WE look to Jesus as our hero, the only One who can save us. We love You. Amen.

5 Minutes HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage your kids to tell their parents about our Big Picture Question. Is anything or anyone greater than God? No, God is greater than everything and everyone. BL! BL: I trust Jesus and follow Him because He forgives me.