

LIFE POINT
*God has control
over all things.*

DAVID AND GOLIATH



LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

God is all-powerful and in control of all things.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE

1 Samuel 17:1-50

UNIT VERSE

Great is our Lord, and
of great power: his
understanding is infinite.
Psalm 147:5 (KJV)

Our Lord is great,
vast in power; his
understanding is infinite.
Psalm 147:5 (CSB)

WEEKLY BIBLE VERSE

Job 42:2

SUGGESTED FOR THE WEEK OF

November 26



LEADER BIBLE STUDY

Have you ever used a slingshot? It is quite the contraption and not easy to use. It takes years of practice to master the skill of aiming and hitting an intended target. Also, a quick online search will show a modern-day slingshot is very different than one from Bible times.

As a young shepherd who guarded and protected sheep, David had many hours, days, or perhaps years to master his defensive skills and maneuvers. David fought lions and bears to protect his father's sheep, so when he heard a giant-size man insult God, David knew he could defeat this enemy with God's help!

Every man, including King Saul, was afraid of Goliath. The giant towered over everyone at 9 feet 9 inches tall! He shouted challenges at the Israelites and insulted God for 40 days! No one wanted to fight this warrior. No one dared to approach him—no one except David.

Although Goliath struck fear in the hearts of Saul's army, David was not discouraged. He knew he could win the battle with God's strength. The Scriptures detail David's confidence in God's power. David willingly risked his life to bring honor and glory to God. With a sling and five stones, David confronted the giant. What bravery David had in that moment!

Bravery does not have to be as grand as defeating a giant with a single stone; it can be as simple as a small step in the right direction. What does your step of bravery look like this week? How can you walk in bravery and follow God's plan, believing that He will provide the strength and wisdom you need?



BIBLE STORY

DAVID AND GOLIATH

Nine feet, nine inches tall. Bronze armor weighing 125 pounds. With a brass helmet and a 15-pound point on his iron spear, Goliath, the terrifying champion of the Philistine army, stood across the valley from the Israelite army. Every day for 40 days, Goliath shouted, "Send me a man so we can fight!" Not one Israelite stepped forward.

One day David's father, Jesse, sent David to check on his older brothers who were in the Israelite army. Jesse sent grain, bread, and cheese with David to give to his brothers and the army commanders. When David arrived, he heard Goliath shout his usual threat. He heard Goliath shout mean things about God. David asked, "Who is this Philistine who challenges the armies of the living God?"

David told Saul that he would fight Goliath and that God would keep him safe. David remembered that God helped him protect his father's sheep from a bear and a lion. David knew that God would help him fight Goliath.

Saul offered his armor to David, but he was not used to wearing it. Instead, David chose five smooth stones from the river and put them in his pouch. He grabbed his sling and walked confidently toward Goliath. Goliath cursed David, but David was not scared. David said, "You come against me with weapons. I come against you in the name of the Lord whom you have dared! Everyone will know today that the battle is the Lord's!"

When Goliath came forward to attack, David quickly ran to the battle line. He placed a stone into his sling and slung it quickly, hitting Goliath's forehead! The Philistine warrior fell facedown on the ground. God helped David beat Goliath, and the Philistines ran away.

— BASED ON 1 SAMUEL 17:1-50



REVIEW QUESTIONS

- › How tall was Goliath?
(9 feet, 9 inches tall)
- › What challenge did Goliath make? *(for the Israelites to send a man to fight him)*
- › Why was David near the battle? *(His father, Jesse, sent him to check on his older brothers and bring them food.)*
- › What did David know about fighting? *(He fought off wild animals to keep his father's sheep safe.)*
- › What supplies did Goliath and David have to fight the battle? *(Goliath had a helmet, armor, and a spear. David had five stones and a sling.)*
- › Who helped David win the battle? *(God)*



PRACTICE BIBLE SKILLS

- › 2 beanbags
- › container of small smooth pebbles—Save the stones for use again in Study the Bible.
- › marker
- › 2 index cards—On 1 card write *Old Testament* and on the other write *New Testament*.
- › 2 hoops or baskets—Place on the floor at one end of the room. Place 1 index card in front of each hoop.
- › masking tape—Tape a line on the floor several feet from the hoops.

- › Printables: “Unit 3 Missions: Luther Rice”—Print the “Luther Rice Silhouette.”

- › Give a player a beanbag “rock” and guide her to stand behind the tape line.
- › Name a book of the Bible and instruct her to toss the beanbag into the correct hoop. If she is correct, give her a small pebble to hold.
- › Continue with another volunteer, giving each player multiple turns as time allows.
- › Instruct kids to count their pebbles before placing them back in the container.
- › Declare the player with the most pebbles as the winner.



MISSIONS EMPHASIS

- › Show the “Luther Rice Silhouette” and say: “For 23 years Luther Rice supported missions in the United States and overseas. In September of 1836 Luther died in South Carolina. As he was dying, he gave his horse, his horse-drawn vehicle, and personal items to Columbian College to be used to support missions and train pastors to be missionaries.”
- › Discuss ways kids can support missionaries, such as by sending birthday cards and thank-you notes, giving offerings, and praying for them.
- › Pray and thank God for Luther Rice and his work to support missions. Pray that more people will serve as missionaries in their own nations and around the world.



INTRODUCTORY ACTIVITY

- › straight-backed chair for each person
- › **Option:** “David and Goliath” coloring page (Printables)

- › Instruct kids to sit on the chairs.
- › Offer the following instructions: “Sit straight with your back against the back of the chair. Place your feet flat on the floor. Cross your arms with your hands on your shoulders. Without bending your back, stand up.”
- › Ask: “Was anyone able to do this?”
- › If someone says he did, ask him to demonstrate, watching his back and feet as he stands. He should not be able to do it.
- › Explain that you gave the kids something that was impossible to do. In today’s Bible story David also faced what seemed like an impossible task. Encourage kids to listen to whether David was able to do it.



PRACTICE BIBLE SKILLS

- » Point to the “History Signs” on the wall and invite volunteers to lead the group to review the names of the Old Testament History books (Joshua–Esther) in order.
- » Tell kids about some of your favorite stories from that Bible division.
- » Guide kids to take turns tossing the sock “sling” toward the wall.
- » When a player hits a sign (or the nearest sign), pause play and read the book name.
- » Challenge the player to name the books that precede and follow the one you named.
- » Award 50 points for a correct answer and lead all of the kids to find the book in their Bibles.
- » Repeat play as time allows.

- » marker
- » construction paper—Write 1 Old Testament History book (*Joshua–Esther*) per sheet. Randomly tape the signs to a wall. **Option:** “History Signs” (Printables)
- » pair of crew socks or knee socks—Make a sock sling by stuffing 1 wadded sock into the toe of the other and securing the “wad” with a rubber band.
- » rubber band
- » masking tape
- » Printables: “Unit 3 Missions: Luther Rice”—Print the “Luther Rice Silhouette.”



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- » Discuss ways kids can support missionaries, such as by sending birthday cards and thank-you notes, giving offerings, and praying for them.
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INTRODUCTORY ACTIVITY

- » Teach kids the verbal cues for these three key words: *lion*—“Rawwwr!” *bear*—“Grrr!” and *giant*—“Yawp!”
- » Explain that only the sounds will be used in a game of “Lion, Bear, Giant,” an audio version of “Rock, Paper, Scissors.”
- » Guide kids to form pairs and stand back to back while you count off. (*One, two, three, turn!*) Each player will turn and make the noise of her choice.
- » Define the outcomes: lion beats bear, bear beats giant, and giant beats lion.
- » After a few rounds, guide kids to switch opponents and play again.
- » Say: “Today you will hear about a young shepherd who trusted that God was in control. With God’s help, the shepherd defeated a lion, a bear, and a giant!”

- » No supplies needed.



- › Pack Items 3, 16: “Unit 3 Banner and Verse,” “Unit 3 Review Questions”—Gather the green cards.
- › Teaching Pictures 10–13
- › Music
- › Videos
- › 5 smooth pebbles (from Practice Bible Skills)
- › marker
- › tape
- › sheet of paper—Draw a simple bullseye on the sheet and attach it to a wall at kids’ heights. **Option:** “Bullseye” (Printables)
- › 1–2 table tennis balls
- › 12–13 index cards—Select your preferred translation of the Unit Verse and write 1 word/reference per card. **Option:** “Unit 3 Verse Cards” (Printables)

Option for Unit Verse: Teach the Weekly Bible Verse, Job 42:2.

1. BIBLE STORY

- Remind kids that this month they have heard about God’s power to do anything, to know all things, and to protect His people.
- Hold five stones in your hand and state that today kids will hear how God has control over all things.
- Show the Teaching Picture and call attention to the sling, which might be different than kids expect.
- Open the Bible to 1 Samuel 17 and tell the Bible story.

2. REVIEW

- Explain that David was a shepherd. He had probably practiced using his slingshot many times as he kept animals away from his sheep.
- Invite kids to play a game to practice their throwing skills.
- Enlist a volunteer to choose and read a green “Unit 3 Review Questions” card.
- Guide the child who correctly answers the question to stand a few feet from the “Bullseye” and try to hit it with a table tennis ball.
- Give each child a turn to answer a question and toss the ball. If you need more questions, create additional questions or true/false statements.
- Tell kids that David was not as big or as strong as Goliath. But David trusted God and knew that God was in control. God gave David power and helped him to defeat Goliath. In the same way Jesus defeated death when He died on the cross and rose from the grave.
- **Option:** Show the “Notebook Bible Story” video.

3. UNIT VERSE

- Display the “Unit 3 Banner and Verse” and lead kids to read the verse together.
- Then cover the verse or remove it from kids’ views.
- Scramble the “Unit 3 Verse Cards” and randomly place them facedown on a table.
- Invite the first player to turn over a card. If it is the first word of the verse, she may leave it uncovered. If it is not the first word, she must turn it over again.
- Continue play, guiding kids to uncover the words in order.
- Encourage kids to say the verse without looking at the cards or the banner.

4. LIFE ACTION

- Guide kids to stand in a circle.
- Give one child a pebble.
- Explain that you will play music while the kids pass the stone around the circle. When the music stops, the person holding the stone will name one thing that God controls.
- Play “Infinite (Psalm 147:5)” and allow kids to play several rounds.
- Show the Teaching Pictures for the unit and remind kids that God is in control. He uses ordinary people like Moses, Jonah, Daniel, and David to do His work.
- Pray, thanking God for His power and control over everything. Ask God to help the kids trust Him to work in their lives.
- **Option:** Show “The Adventures of Dab and Derek” video.

LIFE POINT

God has control over all things.

1. BIBLE STORY

- Distribute a marker and two index cards to each person.
- Direct kids to write *Uh-oh!* on one card and *Oh, yeah!* on the other.
- Display the Teaching Picture, open your Bible to 1 Samuel 17, and tell the Bible story.
- Pause after each paragraph or key point and prompt kids to hold up the card that best reflects that portion of the story.
- Discuss: “What gave David confidence to face Goliath with no armor and only one small sling and five stones?”

2. UNIT VERSE

- Call attention to the verse on the “Unit 3 Banner and Verse.”
- Form two teams. Give each team a scrambled set of labeled cups.
- Direct each team to elect the only team member who will be allowed to touch the cups. That person will close her eyes and follow the verbal instructions of the other players to arrange the cups in order.
- The first team to arrange the cups and say the entire verse in unison wins the game.
- For very small groups, use only one set of cups. Set a timer for three minutes and guide a player to attempt to arrange the cups before time expires.
- Sing “Infinite (Psalm 147:5).”

3. REVIEW

- Call for two kids to stand back to back and play a round of “Lion, Bear, Giant.” (See Introductory Activity.)

- Ask the winner of the game a Review Question from this session or previous sessions in the unit. If she is correct, she will remain standing and take on a new “Lion, Bear, Giant” challenger.
- Play until everyone participates.
- **Option:** Show the “Notebook Bible Story” video.

4. LIFE ACTION

- Remind kids of three long words that describe God’s power and control over all things: *omnipotent*, *omnipresent*, and *omniscient*.
- Display the “Top of the Tops” puzzle. To solve the puzzle, kids must determine which drawing correctly reflects an aerial view of each top.
- Invite several volunteers to guess the solution to the first puzzle (the circle labeled *omniscient*).
- Prompt one of those volunteers to define the word in her own words.
- Repeat for the next two puzzles (answers: *omnipresent* and *omnipotent*).
- Say: “God chose an ordinary young shepherd to save His people from the Philistines. God chose Jesus—who came from a very ordinary family—to save all people from sin. Both David and Jesus trusted God to help them do what needed to be done. They trusted that God was in control.”
- Invite kids to share prayer requests. Ask God to meet those needs in powerful ways.
- **Option:** Show “The Adventures of Dab and Derek” video.

- Pack Items 3, 34: “Unit 3 Banner and Verse,” “Tops of the Tops”
- Teaching Picture 13
- Kids Activity Pages
- Music
- Videos
- pencils
- markers
- index cards (2 per person)
- disposable plastic cups (approximately 24) from the previous session. Write 1 verse word of the Unit Verse per cup. Make 2 sets. **Note:** Save the cups for use during Live It Out, Choice 1.
- timer or smartphone (optional)

Option for Unit Verse:
Teach the Weekly Bible Verse, Job 42:2.



CHOICE 1

- › Kids Activity Pages
- › pencils
- › obstacle course items, such as tables, chairs, hula hoops, balance beams, and pop-up tunnels—Set up an obstacle course in the room.
- › extra-large men’s button-up shirt
- › masking tape—Tape a start line on the floor.

CHOICE 2

- › Pack Item 19: “Twirl-a-Copter Template”—Photocopy 1 copy per person.
- › Kids Activity Pages
- › pencils
- › dry erase marker
- › marker board or poster board
- › marker
- › colored paper
- › scissors
- › paper clips (1 per person)

CHOICE 1: PARTNER OBSTACLE COURSE

- Lead kids to complete “What Can I Do?” on their Kids Activity Pages.
- Talk together about how David trusted God even when he was in danger from Goliath. Kids also can trust God because He is always in control.
- Encourage kids to find partners and line up behind a start line.
- Instruct the first set of partners to put on an adult-size shirt. One child will put his left arm through the left sleeve, and the other child will put his right arm through the right sleeve.
- Guide kids to button the shirt.
- Encourage partners to talk through the obstacle course together, doing as many movements in sync as possible.
- Lead kids who are waiting for turns to count aloud to time the partners as they complete the course.
- Continue until each set of partners has a turn.
- Talk about the challenges of working with someone every step of the way. Explain that we don’t need to worry or be scared because God is with us everywhere we go. We can trust Him to help us.
- Read Job 42:2 and explain that these words are from Job to God. We can read about Job in the Old Testament. He knew that God is powerful and will do exactly what He says. He is always in control!

CHOICE 2: TWIRL-A-COPTERS

- Lead kids to complete “What Can I Do?” on their Kids Activity Pages.
- Talk together about how David trusted God even when he was in danger from Goliath.
- Lead kids to name times they need to remember to trust God. (*during a storm, when they are alone, when they are afraid, when they have to do something hard, when they are sick, and so on*) Write kids’ ideas on a marker board.
- Read each item on the completed list, leading the kids to respond after each: “I can trust God.”
- State that kids can trust God because He is in control of all things.
- Guide kids to follow the directions on the “Twirl-a-Copter Template” to create helicopters.
- Direct the kids to take turns holding their helicopters as high as they can and dropping them to twirl and swirl to the ground.
- Explain that before his helicopter hits the ground, each child must try to say: “God is in control of everything!”
- Play other rounds, creating statements for kids to say, such as: “God has power to do anything.” “God knows all things.” or “God has power to protect His people.”

WRAP UP

- As kids leave, lead them to give you a high five and say: “God is in control!”
- Pray for the kids and their families.
- Remind kids to take home their Kids Activity Pages and review them with their parents.

LIFE POINT

God has control over all things.

CHOICE 1: EARTHQUAKE SHAKE

- Guide kids to complete “Seismic Scale” on their Kids Activity Pages.
- Invite kids to describe other situations that might cause them to feel shaky and uneasy.
- Acknowledge that it is normal to feel afraid, but there are things kids can do to remember that God is in control.
- Set out the “Earthquake Table.”
- Show kids how to activate an earthquake by slightly wiggling it back and forth.
- Instruct kids to build a cup tower that withstands the “earthquake.”
- Announce one of these Bible references for kids to find in their Bibles: Psalm 18:3; Psalm 27:3; Psalm 27:14; Psalm 31:7; Psalm 34:1; Psalm 56:3.
- Lead someone to read aloud the verse and identify the action David took because he trusted God. (*praised, waited, rejoiced, and so on*)
- The player may then set a cup rim down on the “Earthquake Table” and choose another player to give the table a nudge. (Inform kids that movement of the table must be detectable.)
- Allow kids to continue to read Bible verses, choose builders, and construct a tower in a rim down, rim up pattern until it topples.

CHOICE 2: SIT DOWN SOCCER

- Say: “During David’s life, he experienced many fears and worries, but he learned to trust and praise God even when things looked bad.”
- Guide kids to complete “Boxing Match” on their Kids Activity Pages.
- Help kids understand that because David believed God was in control, he could confidently pray, wait for God to act, and rejoice.
- Form two teams, one for each line of chairs, and lead teammates to sit side by side, facing the other team.
- Create goals on each side of the room with the game cones and assign a goal to each team.
- Designate one ball as *what I believe* and the other as *what I can do*. Kids will play with both balls at the same time.
- Supervise for safety.
- While kids remain seated at all times, they will kick the balls back and forth and up and down the line until one team makes a goal.
- Depending on which ball made the goal, award one point after a member of the team expresses what she believes about God’s control or what she can do because God is in control.
- Reset and play as time permits.

WRAP UP

- Say: “I believe God is _____!”
- Allow kids to shout their responses at the same time.
- Remind kids to take home their Kids Activity Pages and review the Bible story this week.

CHOICE 1

- › Kids Activity Pages
- › pencils
- › disposable plastic cups from Study the Bible
- › 2 large hardback books
- › 4 golf balls
- › 2 extra-long rubber bands (file bands)

How to Create an “Earthquake Table”: Stack the books and fasten at each end with a file band. Slip the golf balls between the books, 1 in each corner. The top book will wiggle back and forth when touched slightly.

CHOICE 2

- › Kids Activity Pages
- › markers or colored pencils
- › chairs—Make 2 parallel lines of chairs about 4 feet apart.
- › 2 indoor soccer balls
- › 4 game cones or flat jar grips