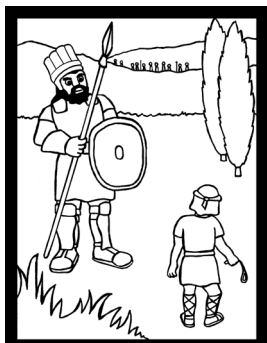


Lesson A2.2 - Don't Be Afraid



Teacher's Pages with Step-by-Step Lesson Plan

For Lower Elementary Students and Classes

Recommended for students in Preschool, Kindergarten, and Grades 1-2.

Quick Facts for the Teacher

Lesson Summary: 1 Samuel 17:1-49

► Bible Characters: Saul, Goliath, David

In the days of the monarchy, among the chief rivals of Israel were the Philistines. These “sea people” had gained a foothold on the coast and were attempting to overcome the army of King Saul. When no one would fight the giant Philistine champion named Goliath, young David stepped forward in faith.

Brief Bible Background

► Today's Lesson is from the Old Testament

► Scripture Section: Monarchy

God's people settled in their own land and were united for the first time under the reign of three great kings, Saul, David, and Solomon. Rivalry and competition caused conflict among the royal families.

For More Information

The primary role of a Sunday School teacher for Preschool, Kindergarten (pre-readers), and Early Elementary (new readers) is to simply tell children the stories of Scripture and introduce them to the major characters of the Bible.

Teachers who want to know more about the lessons for their own familiarity with the story are encouraged to read the information in the SEED Upper Elementary and Youth Teacher's Pages.

a. Classroom Greeting

Teachers should arrive 10 to 15 minutes before class and greet students and parents by name. Write the day's Bible Message on the white board or poster board for all the kids to see. Have kids gather on a rug or in a dedicated meeting space. Encourage the children to learn each other's names.

b. Opening Prayer Song

This same opening prayer song should be sung every week with young kids — remember, repetition is good. The words to this song are sung to the tune of “B-I-N-G-O” (“*There was a farmer had a dog...*”). No accompaniment is needed.

*Thank you, Jesus, for today
and for your loving-kindness.*

*Open up our hearts; open up our minds;
grow our faith in you, and help us learn about you.*

c. Introduction to Today's Message

*Teacher's Script (student responses are in **bold**).*

Have you ever seen a monster on TV that was big and scary and mean? How did it make you feel? Did you worry that the monster would come and get you? God tells us **Don't be afraid!** What does God say? **Don't be afraid!**

- Raise your hand if you've ever seen a scary movie. Is there someone who helped you not to be afraid?
- Sometimes we get afraid of things things that are real, sometimes we are afraid of things we imagine.

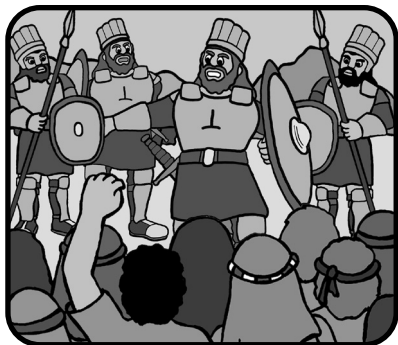
In today's story, a big mean man named Goliath said he wanted to fight. Everyone was afraid, except for one young boy named David. David knew God would protect him. God says, “I am with you. **Don't be afraid.**”

d. SEED Bible Story Video

The teacher may introduce the lesson by playing the video clip from the SEED website. This may be displayed simply on a laptop computer or tablet. If the classroom is equipped with a computer video monitor or video projector, the video can be displayed in a larger size.

e. Read the Story with Poster Pictures

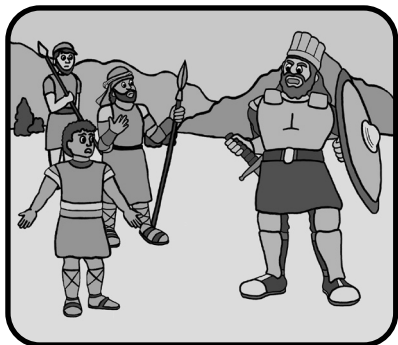
The Bible Story has been divided into four parts, each with an accompanying Poster Picture. The teacher should hold up or point to the relevant Poster Picture while reading the individual part of the story, asking questions while reading. Posters may be printed on letter-sized paper, or enlarged and printed on ledger-sized paper if a bigger printer is available. Poster pictures may also be opened as a PDF on a computer screen, scrolling through each of the four pages.

**Picture 1**

Tell the children: Long ago, God's people were attacked by some enemies called the Philistines. Soldiers from both sides got ready and prepared for a war.

Read the caption: An army of bad guys came to fight against God's people. One of the bad guys was a very big man named Goliath.

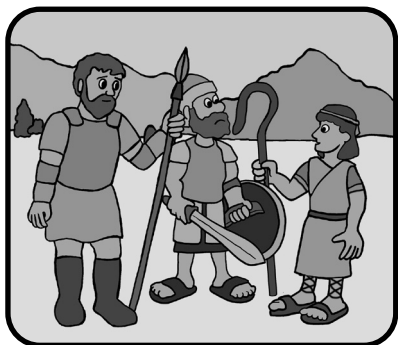
- *The mean guys in the picture are the Philistines. Say it with me: **FILL-iss-teens**. How would you feel if big guys were mean to you?*
- *What was the name of the biggest enemy? [Goliath] The Bible says that Goliath was a giant. What is a giant? [A very big, tall, and strong person.]*

**Picture 2**

Tell the children: Goliath was a giant of a man. He was very tall and strong. He wore armor and carried a shield. He fought with a large sword.

Read the caption: Goliath was a mean bully. He said he could beat anyone who tried to fight against him. All God's soldiers were afraid to fight.

- *Can you tell which person in the picture is Goliath? [The man in red and gold.]*
- *The men in blue are soldiers in God's army. What are they thinking when they look at Goliath? [Afraid] Would you be afraid?*

**Picture 3**

Tell the children: All the soldiers in God's army were afraid of Goliath. They knew they could not beat him. None of God's people were brave enough to fight.

Read the caption: But one young boy named David stood up and said, "I will fight Goliath. I am not afraid because I know God will protect me."

- *Who is the boy in green? [David] What is he saying to the other men? [David said that he would fight Goliath.]*
- *David did not have any fancy armor or weapons like Goliath. Why was David not afraid? [He knew God would protect him.]*

**Picture 4**

Tell the children: Goliath laughed when he saw David come near. Goliath was big and strong. David was just a young boy; compared to Goliath he looked small and weak.

Read the caption: David faced Goliath with only a slingshot. With a single stone David hit Goliath in the head and knocked him to the ground.

- *What are the two objects David is holding in his hands? [David has a staff (a walking stick) and a sling (used to throw rocks)]*
- *Why do you think David was able to beat Goliath? [God was with him.]*
- *David knew God would protect him. God says, "I am with you. Don't be afraid."*

f. Bible Story Rhyme (optional)

The Bible Story Rhyme below is the same one found on the Upper Elementary Student sheet. The teacher can read the beginning of the line and see if the children can finish the last rhyming word of the phrase.

*Goliath was a great big man.
When they saw him, people ran.
With spear and shield he was a fright.
God's people were afraid to fight.*

*David told them, "I will do it."
God was with him, and he knew it.
"I have fought with bears and lions.
God will save me from Goliath."*

*The big man laughed as David came.
Goliath called the young man names.
But David shot a single stone,
and knocked the big Goliath down.*

g. Young Children's Activity (optional)

Simple in-class crafts or activities may be completed by the children if there is time left at the end of class. (Note: For the youngest children, simply providing crayons and letting them complete the Coloring Page may serve as the "craft" for the day.)

God is With Me Craft**Materials:**

- Small, flat stones or small wooden disks
- Acrylic paints or markers
- Thin paintbrushes
- Cups of water and paper towels (if using paints)

**Instructions:**

David could be brave because he remembered that God was with him. Many people in our time carry a small token or cross, called a cross in a pocket, as a reminder of Christ's faithful love for them. Knowing that we are not alone, and that we can trust God to help and guide us through our challenges, is a great comfort.

For this craft, kids will paint or draw a cross or another religious symbol or word ("Trust" etc.) on a smooth stone or wooden disk. They can decorate around the symbol or word however they would like.

When the paint dries, kids can put this in a pocket or backpack and carry it with them. It can serve as a little reminder that God goes with them wherever they go. God will help them face challenges as he helped David.

h. Song (optional)

This children's song has motions that can be found online on YouTube, Vimeo, or other sites.

I've Got Peace Like a River

Verse 1: hands in wave motion

**I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river in my soul. (Repeat)**



Verse 2: hands in spout motion

**I've got joy like a fountain,
I've got joy like a fountain,
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul. (Repeat)**



Verse 3: hands spreading wide

**I've got love like an ocean,
I've got love like an ocean,
I've got love like an ocean in my soul. (Repeat)**



i. Story Review: Then What Happened?

Then What Happened is a learning game that helps kids retell the story and remember the flow of events. The teacher reads the starting sentence and then chooses a student to continue the story. There are two rules: each student may only add one sentence or say one new thing, and events in the story need to be in the right order.

► **Start: The champion of the Philistines was a giant named Goliath. All the Israelites were afraid to fight him. Then what happened?**

If the younger kids have trouble, cut a Take-Home Page into four pieces (with no words) and let the kids put the illustrations in order while they tell the story.

j. Closing Prayer

Send the children home with the Take-Home Page, and tell them to ask their parents to read the story to them again (or, perhaps, they can read it to their parents).

End class with this closing prayer, repeated each week for memorization.

*Thank you, thank you, Jesus Lord, for loving me today.
Help me see all that you do
and learn the things you say.*

*I ask that you be with me as I learn and laugh and play.
Please grow my faith and bring me back
to learn again, I pray. Amen.*