

Little Leaders Children Lesson

Topic: “Don’t Be Afraid to Fight!”

Scripture Focus: 1 Samuel 17:24–50

Theme: When something feels too big or scary, we can remember that God is with us, use what He has given us, and keep going until the fight is finished.

Materials Needed:

- Bible
 - Paper and crayons
 - One soft ball or beanbag
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Words to Know

Opening Prayer - A way to invite God in and get students to pray

1. Opening Activity - an activity to get the children ready to focus in
2. Memory Verse - the verse that will be taught to children that they may commit to memory
3. Transition - a statement that helps you move smoothly through lesson
4. The Lesson - is the outline of the lesson
5. Main Point - is the topic of the point you will teach in lesson, sometimes it’s one and sometimes it’s more than one.
6. () Inside the parenthesis are little things for the teachers to say or do
7. Explanation - a statement that further explains a word or point
8. Engager/Discussion Question - a question or activity to get children involved
9. Reinforcer - something used to drive the main point(s) home
10. Bottom Line - the close of the lesson
11. Did We Get It - an activity to make sure children understood lesson and takeaways

Closing Prayer - a way to thank God and get students to pray

Opening Prayer

The teacher(s) will ask a student volunteer to pray.

Review of Children's Church Expectations

The teacher(s) will go over the expectations with the students.

Review of Recent Memory Verse

Daniel 6:10 – “He continued to pray just as he had always done.”

Opening Activity: “Is It a Giant?”

(The teacher(s) will ask all the students to stand up.)

Explain to the students:

“I am going to name different situations. If you think the situation would be easy for you, crouch down low. If you think it would feel difficult or scary, stretch up as tall as you can like a giant.”

Read situations such as:

- Taking a difficult test
- Learning how to ride a bicycle
- Speaking in front of the class
- Standing up for someone being treated badly
- Trying something new
- Telling the truth after making a mistake

Ask the students:

- Did everyone think the same situations were difficult?
- What is something that sometimes feels like a giant problem to you?
- Can something feel scary even when it is the right thing to do?

Then say:

Different things may feel like giants to different people. A giant is anything that feels too big, too difficult, or too scary for us to handle. Today we are going to learn about a young man named David who refused to let a giant make him afraid.

Today's Memory Verse

(Must write it on the board and teach it with hand motions so students can commit to memory.)

1 Samuel 17:47 – *“The battle is the Lord’s.”*

Hand Motions:

- The battle – (Hold both fists up like you are ready to fight)
 - Is – (Clap hands together once)
 - The Lord’s – (Point upward toward God)
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Transition to the Lesson:

(The teacher(s) will say)

“Have you ever faced something that seemed too big for you? Maybe you were afraid to try something new, stand up for what was right, or finish something difficult. Sometimes fear tells us to hide, run away, or give up. Today we are going to meet David, a young man who faced a giant named Goliath. David was not the biggest or strongest person there, but he knew that God was with him!”

Lesson Scripture:

1 Samuel 17:24–50 (Children’s Edition)

Main Point 1: Face What Scares You

Read 1 Samuel 17:26 – David heard Goliath speaking against God’s people and asked, “Who does this giant think he is to challenge the army of the living God?”

Discussion Question: What should you do when something feels scary, but you know it needs to be handled?

(The teachers should allow the students to answer and then add): All the soldiers saw Goliath and became afraid, but David was willing to face him. David understood that running away would not make the giant disappear. We should ask God for courage and face the things God is helping us overcome.

Main Point 2: Remember What God Has Done

Read 1 Samuel 17:33, 36–37 – King Saul told David that he was too young to fight Goliath. David answered, “God helped me defeat a lion and a bear, and God will help me defeat this giant too.”

Discussion Question: Can you remember a time when God helped you through something difficult?

(The teachers should allow the students to answer and then add): David made his faith stronger by remembering how God had helped him before. When fear tells us that we cannot make it, we should remember the prayers God has answered, the people God has sent to help us, and the difficult days God has already brought us through.

Main Point 3: Use What God Gave You

Read 1 Samuel 17:38–40 – Saul gave David his armor and sword, but they did not fit him. David took them off and chose his staff, his sling, and five smooth stones.

Discussion Question: Why do you think David chose his own sling instead of using Saul’s armor?

(The teachers should allow the students to answer and then add): David could not fight well while wearing something that was made for someone else. God had already taught David how to use a sling. We do not have to copy everyone else. God has given each of us our own gifts, abilities, ideas, and ways to solve problems.

Main Point 4: Finish the Fight

Read 1 Samuel 17:45, 47–49 – David told Goliath, “You come with weapons, but I come in the name of the Lord. The battle belongs to God!” David ran toward Goliath, placed a stone in his sling, and defeated the giant.

Discussion Question: What helped David keep moving forward instead of becoming afraid and running away?

(The teachers should allow the students to answer and then add): David had a plan, but more importantly, he knew that God was with him. David did not just talk about fighting the giant; he ran toward the fight and finished what he started. When God gives us a job to do, we should trust God, follow the plan, and keep going until the work is complete.

Second Activity: “Four Courage Moves”

(The teacher(s) will ask all the students to stand up and spread out.)

Explain to the students that they will learn four courage moves that represent the four parts of David’s story.

Teach the following actions:

- **Face It** – Take one large step forward and say, “I will not run!”
- **Remember** – Point behind you and say, “God helped me before!”
- **Use It** – Pretend to swing a sling and say, “I will use what God gave me!”
- **Finish It** – Stomp one foot and say, “The battle is the Lord’s!”

Practice each movement slowly.

After the students learn the movements, call them out in different orders. The students must quickly perform the correct action and repeat the words.

Next, allow student volunteers to become the leader and call out the courage moves.

After several rounds, ask:

- Which courage move was your favorite?
- Which move reminds us to think about what God has already done?
- Which move reminds us that we do not have to copy someone else?
- Which move reminds us not to quit?

(The teacher(s) will say): David faced the giant, remembered what God had done, used what God gave him, and finished the fight. When we face difficult situations, we can follow those same four courage moves.

Did We Get It? (If time permits)

Ask:

- Why were the soldiers afraid of Goliath?
- What did David remember when Saul said he could not fight?
- Why did David remove Saul’s armor?
- What did David use to fight Goliath?
- Who did David say the battle belonged to?
- What are the four courage moves we learned today?

Let the students answer or draw a picture of David facing Goliath. Ask them to write or repeat:
“God is with me, so I do not have to be afraid.”

Bottom Line:

“I don’t have to be afraid to fight because God is with me!”

Closing Prayer:

The teacher(s) will ask a student volunteer to pray and thank God for giving us courage, helping us remember God’s faithfulness, and showing us how to finish what God has called us to do.