

HEROES

OF THE

FAITH

Ordinary Men and Women . . .
Super Ordinary Power



DAVID SLAYS GOLIATH WITH A SINGLE SHOT

HEROES OF THE FAITH CURRICULUM—2012

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Arlington † Metroplex
Taking church to the people



19

DAVID SLAYS GOLIATH WITH A SINGLE SHOT

Memory Verse:

For the eyes of the LORD move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His. (2 Chronicles 16:9 NASB)

Lesson Goals:

#1 - Understand how ordinary David was

#2 - Discover what faith led David to do

#3 - Desire to let God do extraordinary things in the life of the ordinary student

Audience:

Young, un-churched learners

Adaptable for all ages, including adults (See **For more training** on Activities page)

Scripture to Study:

1 Samuel 15-17



19

DAVID SLAYS GOLIATH WITH A SINGLE SHOT

1 Samuel 15-17

Who can tell me what a hero is? A hero is someone who is courageous and brave and compassionate. There are heroes and heroines in the Bible. All of them are brave and courageous and more, but not in the way you would expect.

Our hero: David

His Heroic Feat: Has a heart like God's

Having a heart like God's may not sound very heroic, but let's look at the facts and see what you think when you have heard the whole story!

In our last lesson we talked about Samuel and how faithfully he served the Lord. The people of Israel so wanted to be like all the other nations that Samuel's faithful service meant nothing to them. The thing is, in wanting a king to rule over them, they weren't rejecting Samuel, they were rejecting God. God warned the people of the consequences, but let the people have what they wanted, a king. Saul did things his own way, disobeying God. It wasn't long, though, before God was very sorry he had made Saul king. Through Samuel, God told Saul that his kingdom wouldn't last and that he was looking for a man with a heart like His own to be king.

So God sent Samuel to prepare someone else to be king, someone who would obey God, but who wouldn't begin to reign as king until Saul's death. God sent Samuel to Bethlehem, to Jesse's house. Jesse had eight sons; seven of them were home. Samuel looked at the oldest, Eliab, and was sure he was the one to be anointed as the next king. "But the LORD told him, 'Samuel, don't think Eliab is the one just because he's tall and handsome. He isn't the one I've chosen. People judge others by what they look like, but I judge people by what is in their hearts.'" (1 Samuel 16:7 CEV) In fact, each of the seven sons who were there were presented to Samuel, but God hadn't chosen any of them. When Samuel realized the youngest was out taking care of the sheep, they all waited until he was sent for. God let Samuel know that the youngest, David, was the one. Samuel anointed David with oil in front of his brothers and God's Spirit came upon him.

Some time later, "the Philistines gathered their army together for war." (1 Samuel 17:1 NIV) These are the same Philistines that the judge Samson began to fight against. Saul and his army readied themselves for battle. The Philistine camp was on one hill, the Israelite camp on the other, across the Valley of Elah. "A mighty hero named Goliath came out of the Philistine camp. . . He was more than nine feet tall." (1 Samuel 17:4 NIV) He shouted insults to the army of Israel day after day for forty days. Saul and his army were terrified. David's three oldest brothers were a part of that army.

Since David was the youngest, he went back and forth from Saul's camp to Bethlehem, where he took care of his father's sheep. He went to Saul's camp to take food to his brothers and to take word back to his dad about his brothers. It was on one of those trips that David heard the war cries and Goliath's insults. He saw how Goliath filled Israel's army with fear.

David wondered, "Who does this pagan think he is?" David wanted to know what would be done for the man who killed the giant, Goliath. Saul heard about David's questions and asked for him. David volunteered to fight Goliath. Saul thought David was too young, but when David insisted, saying he had killed lions and bears to save his sheep, King Saul offered David his own armor. David refused the armor. Instead he gathered five smooth stones from the stream that ran through the valley.

Once David had armed himself with the stones and his sling, he approached Goliath, something none of the other Israelites had dared to do. Goliath came towards David until they were very close to each other. "Goliath looked David over. He saw how young he was. He also saw how tanned and handsome he was. And he hated him." (1 Samuel 17:42 NIV) Goliath called down curses on David and on his God. He even threatened to feed him to the birds.

David's response was courageous and full of faith. He said, "You are coming to fight against me with a sword, a spear and a javelin. But I'm coming against you in the name of the Lord who rules over all. He is the God of the armies of Israel. He's the one you have dared to fight against. This very day the Lord will hand you over to me. . . . The Lord doesn't save using a sword or a spear. And everyone who is here will know it. The battle belongs to the Lord." (1 Samuel 17:45-47 NIV) With that, David ran to Goliath, reached into his bag for a stone, loaded the sling, and slung it. The stone reached its mark and hit Goliath square in the forehead. Goliath fell to the ground, dead.

God had brought the victory; the battle was His. David had faith in God and refused to hear God's name slandered. David was rewarded by King Saul, and after many years he took Saul's place on the throne of Israel. David ruled well. David pleased God. He wasn't perfect, but he loved and honored God and sought His forgiveness when he sinned. David had a heart like God's. How about you?



YOU CAN BE A HERO, TOO!

When you live a life of faith in Jesus Christ, you don't have to leap tall buildings to be a hero. David had a heart like God's. What does that mean? Well, it means many things, but it started with David being close to God, spending time with God, praising Him and calling out to Him the way David did through the Psalms.

Do you have a relationship with the Lord? Do you know Him? You can, you know. He's waiting for you to do just that. Let's talk.

PRE-SCHOOL!

LESSON

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Our hero: David

His Heroic Feat: Has a heart like God's

Having a heart like God's may not sound very heroic, but let's look at the facts and see what you think when you have heard the whole story!

There was a young boy named David, the youngest of his family. One day God told the prophet Samuel that He was very sorry he had made Saul king. God chose David to be king after Saul. God knew David would be obedient. Samuel told David and his family.

Later, the enemies of God's people wanted to fight. Saul and his army got ready for battle. "A mighty hero named Goliath came out of the Philistine camp. . . He was more than nine feet tall." (1 Samuel 17:4 NIV) He shouted insults to the army of Israel day after day for forty days. Saul and his army were terrified. David's three oldest brothers were a part of that army.

Since David was the youngest, he went back and forth from home to Saul's camp. He took food to his brothers. It was on one of those trips that David heard Goliath's insults. He saw how Goliath filled Israel's army with fear. David wasn't afraid; he was mad. David volunteered to fight Goliath. David refused the king's armor. Instead he gathered five smooth stones from the stream that ran through the valley.

David approached Goliath, something none of the other Israelites had dared to do. Goliath came towards David until they were very close to each other. "Goliath looked David over. He saw how young he was. He also saw how tanned and handsome he was. And he hated him." (1 Samuel 17:42 NIV) Goliath called down curses on David and on his God. He even threatened to feed him to the birds.

David said, "You are coming to fight against me with a sword, a spear and a javelin. But I'm coming against you in the name of the Lord who rules over all. He is the God of the armies of Israel. He's the one you have dared to fight against. This very day the Lord will hand you over to me. . . . The Lord doesn't save using a sword or a spear. And everyone who is here will know it. The battle belongs to the Lord." (1 Samuel 17:45-47 NIV) With that, David ran to Goliath, reached into his bag for a stone, loaded the sling, and slung it. The stone reached its mark and hit Goliath square in the forehead. Goliath fell to the ground, dead.

God had brought the victory; the battle was His. David had faith in God and refused to hear God's name slandered. David pleased God.

ACTIVITIES!

- Memory Verse Activity - Make large hearts from construction paper. Write the memory verse around the outside edge of the heart. Talk about how God is still looking today for men and women, like David, who have a heart like God's.
- Continue adding heroes' names and heroic feats to your "Heroes Banner."
- Sing "Our God is an Awesome God," "My God is So Big" or other praise songs related to the lesson.
- Make God's Eyes. Be creative. Talk about how God saw David and chose him. God sees us, as well. Discuss the memory verse.
- **For more training:** Read 1 Samuel 15. Talk about Saul's disobedience. Saul thought he was being obedient to God, but partial obedience is disobedience. Now, read 1 Samuel 13:13-14, 1 Samuel 16:7, and Acts 13:22. Discuss David. How can you apply these truths to your own life?
- **For more training:** When most people think of David, we think of Goliath or Bathsheba. "But there is much more to the personality and ministry of Israel's greatest king than a remarkable adolescent victory and a costly midlife failure. When you look carefully at his varied experiences with the Lord, you will soon discover that David is one of the truly great heroes of faith in Scripture, a person with whom we would be wise to spend some time."* Spend some time reading through the Psalms, especially the following: Psalm 4, 8, 14, 22, 23, 31, 139, 142, etc.
- **For more training:** "David wasn't sinless—nobody is—but in his heart, he was blameless before the Lord and the people (Psalm 18:20-24)."* An example can be found in David's sin with Bathsheba. Read 2 Samuel 11 and 12. Then read Psalm 51 and discuss the heart of David that drove him to seek God's forgiveness. Finish up with 1 John 1:9.

*Wiersbe, Warren W. *Life Sentences: What Sentence Will Sum Up Your Life?* Zondervan: Grand Rapids, Michigan. 2007. pp. 137, 140.

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2 Chronicles 16:9

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Ordinary Men and Women . . .
Super Ordinary Power

HERO IN TRAINING

David Slays Goliath With a Single Shot

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HERO TRAINING!

Scripture: 1 Samuel 17

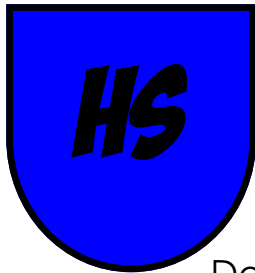
Memory verse:

For the eyes of the LORD move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His.
(2 Chronicles 16:9 NASB)

Our Hero: _____

What did our heroine do that was so heroic? _____

What can you do to be a **Hero of the Faith**? _____



What power do Heroes of the Faith possess?

Do you have the power? _____

Read Psalm 51. David wrote this Psalm after he had done something wrong. He was asking for forgiveness. What can you learn from this Psalm? _____

HIDDEN MESSAGE!

Can you crack the code to find the Hidden Message?
Unscramble the underlined words to reveal the hidden message.

For the eyes of the LORD
move to and fro throughout the earth
that He may strongly support
those whose heart is completely His.

2 Chronicles 16:9

WORD

SEARCH!

B D D R E H P E H S G D E
D R D E B O R E E T G I L
R T D T S S S V A R O R I
O B E I A Y E R R O D O T
L T Y S M A R E T E C L S
E S E N I T S I L I H P E
H S B V E S H N I S O H N
T T O M L L E E K E S T O
F R S O H G N O E H E F T
O V I C T O R Y G A D O S
E S D I R P E H O I A E E
G O L I A T H P D R V S V
U T U L A Y J A S S I U I
O N A N E R D L D H D O F
H T S E G N U O Y N A H M

- Saul disobeyed
- God chose David
- youngest
- shepherd
- heart like God's
- Philistines
- Goliath
- five stones
- victory

HIDDEN MESSAGE!

Answer Page

Can you crack the code to find the Hidden Message?
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SEARCH!

Answer Page

B	D	D	R	E	H	P	E	H	S	G	D	E
D	R	D	E	B	O	R	E	E	T	G	I	L
R	T	D	T	S	S	S	V	A	R	O	R	I
O	B	E	I	A	Y	E	R	R	O	D	O	T
L	T	Y	S	M	A	R	E	T	E	C	L	S
E	S	E	N	I	T	S	I	L	I	H	P	E
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F	R	S	O	H	G	N	O	E	H	E	F	T
O	V	I	C	T	O	R	Y	G	A	D	O	S
E	S	D	I	R	P	E	H	O	I	A	E	E
G	O	L	I	A	T	H	P	D	R	V	S	V
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O	N	A	N	E	R	D	L	D	H	D	O	F
H	T	S	E	G	N	U	O	Y	N	A	H	M

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