

# David and Goliath

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Wednesday Plan

SCRIPTURE

1 Samuel 17

MEMORY VERSE

1 Samuel 17:47

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*The battle belongs to the LORD.*

## For the Teacher

Wednesday night reinforces what the kids learned on Sunday. Don't re-teach the whole lesson — they heard it. Your job tonight is to make it stick through review, movement, and prayer.

### KEY TRUTH

The battle belongs to the LORD.

**Same bottom line as Sunday, by design.** Wednesday uses the exact same sentence the kids heard on Sunday. Repeat it. Have them say it back. Don't paraphrase or soften it — the repetition is the point. A kid who hears the same sentence twice in three days will remember it.

**Tonight is kinetic.** Sunday was reading and discussion. Wednesday is feet. The whole back half of class is a “naming the giant” game where the kids physically walk toward a paper giant on the wall, name what's scaring them, and lay a stone at its feet while saying the bottom line out loud. Don't try to make this quiet.

**What to skip.** Don't re-read the whole chapter. The kids did that Sunday. Tonight you'll only re-read 1 Samuel 17:45–47 — the verses that carry the bottom line. If a kid wasn't there Sunday, give them a one-sentence catch-up (“There was a nine-and-a-half-foot giant who scared the whole army of Israel for forty days. A shepherd boy named David walked out and beat him with one stone, because David said the battle belonged to the LORD”), then move on.

**Energy management.** The naming-the-giant moment can get loud and silly fast — kids will want to make their giant be “homework” or “my brother” as a joke. That's fine for round one. In rounds two and three, push toward real ones. Don't shame anybody, but don't let the whole night stay on the joke level either. Bring them back down for the closing prayer and take-home card.

### MATERIALS

- Bibles for every student
- Whiteboard or large paper, markers
- A large sheet of butcher paper or poster board (for the paper giant — see below)
- A small smooth stone for each kid (river rocks work; small wooden blocks or marbles if you can't get stones)
- **The Battle Is the LORD's** prayer cards (printed in advance from this week's activities)
- Pencils

## 1. Gather

Welcome the kids back. Tell them:

### SAY

*On Sunday we learned one big idea, and we're going to learn it again tonight. I want you to say it with me: The battle belongs to the LORD.*

Have them say it back. Then again, louder. Then in a whisper.

Write it on the board.

Tell them tonight they're going to use their feet, not just their mouths — they're going to face a giant of their own. But first, a quick review.

## 2. The Story

### Quick Review

ASK

*Who can tell me what was happening in the valley when David showed up?*

Let two or three kids answer. Steer toward: a giant named Goliath had been daring Israel's army to fight him for forty days, and nobody had the courage to go.

ASK

*What did David bring with him to the fight?*

You're looking for: *a sling and five stones — but more importantly, the name of the LORD.* If a kid only says "a sling," push back: *what did David say in verse 45? He said, "I come to you in the name of the LORD."*

ASK

*And who did David say the battle belonged to?*

*The LORD. Not David. Not Israel. The LORD.* Write it on the board again: *The battle belongs to the LORD.*

### Re-Read 1 Samuel 17:45–47

Have them open to 1 Samuel 17:45. Pick a confident reader and have them read verses 45 through 47 aloud, slowly.

#### 1 Samuel 17:45–47

ASK

*Goliath came with three weapons. What were they?*

*Sword, spear, and javelin.* Write them on the board.

ASK

*David came with one thing. What was it?*

*The name of the LORD.* Write it on the board, bigger than the weapons.

Say the bottom line again, with them: *The battle belongs to the LORD.*

## 3. The Work

### Naming the Giant

Before class, hang a large sheet of butcher paper on one wall — floor to ceiling if you can. Draw a rough outline of a giant on it (stick figure is fine; this is not an art project). Mark a starting line on the floor with tape, ten or fifteen feet from the wall.

Hand each kid a stone.

Tell them: this is the giant. The giants in your real life are invisible — but they're real. Tonight you're going to name yours. You're going to walk from this line up to that giant, lay your stone at his feet, and as you do it you're going to say out loud: *"The battle belongs to the LORD."*

The game has three rounds.

**Round 1 — Joke giants.** Tell the kids the first round is the silly one. Their giant can be anything that bugs them — homework, a broccoli, their little sister. Each kid in turn walks to the giant, lays

a stone, and says *“The battle belongs to the LORD”* out loud. This round is mostly about getting comfortable with the motion and the words.

**Round 2 — Real giants.** Now tell them: this round is real. Their giant has to be something that actually scares them. A test. A bully. Being left out. A sick family member. They don’t have to say it out loud — they can just say it in their head as they walk — but the words at the giant are still the same: *“The battle belongs to the LORD.”*

**NOTE**

Round 2 will get quieter. That’s right. If a kid is stuck, walk with them and ask: *“What’s the hardest thing this week?”* Help them name it in their head.

**Round 3 — All together.** Tell the kids to all line up at the starting line, shoulder to shoulder. They’ve each got one more stone (or they pick up the one they already laid down). On three, everyone walks toward the giant together, and on the count of three, they all say *“The battle belongs to the LORD”* at full volume.

Do it once. Do it again louder. Do it a third time and have the quietest kid in the room call the count.

**Bringing It Back**

Gather the kids back to the starting line. Ask:

**ASK**

*Which round was hardest? The silly one, the real one, or the loud one?*

Let a few kids answer. Then say:

**SAY**

*The giant on the wall is fake. We can walk up to it. But the giants in your real life — the test, the friend who’s hurting, the thing you’re scared of at home — those are real. And the same God who won the battle for David wins the battle for you. The fight isn’t yours. It’s the LORD’s. You can walk toward the hard thing because he’s already on the other side of it.*

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## 4. The Point

**The Battle Is the LORD’s Prayer Card**

Hand out the **The Battle Is the LORD’s** prayer cards. Have each student fill in the prompt:

*God, the battle is yours when I \_\_\_\_\_.*

Tell them they can write or draw. They’ll take it home and put it somewhere they’ll see it during the week — by their bed, on the fridge, in their backpack.

**NOTE**

While they fill out the cards, walk around. If a kid is stuck, ask them: *“What giant are you facing this week?”* Help them turn it into a sentence.

**Memory Verse and Closing**

When they’re done, have everyone come back together and turn to 1 Samuel 17:47:

**SCRIPTURE**

*1 Samuel 17:47*

*And that all this assembly may know that the LORD saves not with sword and spear. For the battle is the LORD’s, and he will give you into our hand.*

Read it together once. Then say the bottom line one final time, with the kids:

**SAY**

*The battle belongs to the LORD.*

Close in prayer:

**PRAY**

*God, you beat the giant for David. You beat the giants for us too. This week, when we look at our prayer cards, help us remember that the fight isn't ours. It's yours. Help us walk toward the hard things in your name, because we trust you. Amen.*