

Session 3

David and Goliath

“Don’t be afraid, I am with you; don’t be worried, I am your God. I strengthen you, I keep you, and I will save you with my own hands.”

Scripture: 1 Samuel 17 and Isaiah 41:10

Supplies:

- Copies of David’s bag activity
- Scissors, glue and stationery
- Small stones (5 for each child)
- Sticky tape
- Soft ball or two depending on the size of the group
- Clothing and masks for David, Goliath, Saul and David’s father (see KIX website for ideas)



Welcome

The children spread out in the room or outside. One child has the soft ball in their hand and begins the game by throwing it at someone. If that person is hit, they must throw the ball at someone else and then sit down. Keep playing until the last person has the ball. This is the winner. If the group is too big, two teams can play against each other (each team has a ball).



Worship

Settle down ritual from Psalm 23

The children sit down with legs crossed and eyes closed. Let the children repeat this phrase 3x with you: “The Lord is with us”. Now say: “Because the Lord is my Shepherd, I am not afraid. He leads me through dark times and cares for me.”



Word

Guess what I am:

- All of us have one but no one’s is the same (*Allow time for a few guesses*)
- I change all the time (*Time for guesses*)
- Sometimes I’m long and sometimes I’m short. (*Time for guesses*)
- It doesn’t matter what you do, you can’t get rid of me.

Answer: Your shadow

Today we are going to hear the story of David who believed that God is always with him (like his shadow) even when he couldn’t see God. Remember in the previous story where David was made king? David was chosen by God and had to serve God. Acts 13:22 says: “I have found David the son of Jesse to be a man after my own heart, who will carry out all my will.”

David was very special to God. After David was anointed as king he carried on herding sheep as his time to be king hadn’t come yet. Saul was still the king, but God had already begun to do great things with the young man, David.

God was with David every day and David knew it. In this time the Philistines came together to make war against the Israelites.

Get some children to come to the front. Dress them up and let them help you tell the rest of the story.

The whole group can participate in the story while you're telling it.

When you use the following words, the children must react out loud:

WORD PRESENTER SAYS	CHILDREN REACT
David	5 white stones
Goliath	Big, big, very big
Saul	O great king
Walk	Clap hands 3x
Run	Clap hands 3x quickly

The Philistines came together to fight against the Israelites. King **Saul** (O great king) had the Israelites set up camp on one side of the field. The best fighter for the Philistines, **Goliath** (big, big, very big) **walked** (clap hands 3x) to the Israelites to challenge them, but everyone was too scared to fight him. **Goliath** (big, big, very big) was almost 3 meters tall, and his weapons were enormous. He said if the Israelites won, the Philistines would become their slaves, but if the Philistines won, the Israelites would be their slaves. **Saul** (O great king) and his people were very scared. **David's** (5 white stones) father sent him with food to his brothers. **David** (5 white stones) was obedient and **walked** (clap hands 3x) to his brothers. When he arrived, **Goliath** (big, big, very big) was busy mocking the Israelites. **David** (5 white stones) couldn't believe that this non-believing giant was mocking God's people. **David** (5 white stones) **walked** (clap hands 3x) to **Saul** (o great king) and told him that he would fight **Goliath** (big, big, very big). **Saul** (o great king) was shocked and said: "No! You can't fight against him. He'll kill you!"

David (5 white stones) told him about the bear and lion that he killed with God's help while he was herding sheep and he would defeat **Goliath** (big, big, very big) with God's help.

David (5 white stones) tried to wear **Saul's** (o great king) armour, but it was too heavy, he couldn't even **walk** (clap hands 3x) with it. He decided to go without it to fight **Goliath** (big, big, very big).

David **ran** (clap hands 3x quickly) to the stream and found 5 white stones. He **ran** (clap 3x quickly) with the 5 stones in his bag and his slingshot to **Goliath** (big, big, very big).

Goliath (big, big, very big) laughed when he saw **David** (5 white stones) standing before him. He thought he could easily defeat him and kill him. But **David** (5 white stones) told **Goliath** (big, big, very big): "You come with a sword and spear, but here I am in the name of God – He will help me defeat you!"

Goliath (big, big, very big) **ran** (clap 3x quickly) to **David** (5 white stones) and **David** (5 white stones) put one of the stones in his slingshot and swung it around and around. It hit **Goliath** (big, big, very big) hard on his forehead! **Goliath** (big, big, very big) fell over, dead! **David** (5 white stones) **walked** (clap hands 3x) to the giant, took his sword, and chopped **Goliath's** (big, big, but now dead) head off. **David** (5 white stones) had won! When the Philistines saw this, they all **ran** (clap hands 3x quickly) away.

That's how God helped the Israelites win through using **David** (5 white stones). God was with **David** (5 white stones).

Children reflect on the story:

1. I wonder how this story makes you feel.
2. I wonder if there are things in your life that might feel as big as Goliath that you're afraid of.
3. I wonder if there is anything too big or difficult for God.



Working and Playing

- Children write their problems in the bag's circles. Cut out the bigger circles and stick it over the problems.
- Younger children can collect 5 small stones and attach them to the bag with sticky tape.

Closing prayer to end the session

