

THE STORY

READ THE STORY. EXPERIENCE THE BIBLE.

CHAPTER 11

Timeless Truth: Total trust in God brings great courage.

Bible Basis: 1 Samuel 16-18; 24; 31; 2 Samuel 6; 22; 1 Chronicles 17; Psalm 59

Key Verse: "I am coming against you in the name of the Lord who rules over all." 1 Samuel 17:45

Parent Tips: Use the Table Talk questions to start a discussion around the dinner table at some point this week, and/or use the questions inside your books. Pick the questions that work best for your family. The Living Faith section (on the back) is a fun activity for you to do.

GET THE POINT

Preschool/Elementary: David fought in God's strength. God gives me courage when I am afraid.

Middle School/High School: David relied on God's strength, not his own.

TABLE TALK

Preschool/Elementary

- Goliath's enormous size (about 7 feet tall) and strength intimidated Israel's army. Why wasn't David afraid of this big bully? Would you have been afraid?
- Are there any bullies at school that scare you? What's the best way to treat a bully? (Note: the correct answer isn't to hit him in the head with a rock.)
- Saul thought David should fight Goliath in the traditional way and dressed David in his armor. Why was that a problem?
- How did David show faith by facing Goliath wearing his regular clothes and using rocks as a weapon?

Middle/High School

- In King Saul's eyes, Goliath was a massive, immovable force. What are the Goliath's in your life? In other words, what areas of your do you need God's power to help you overcome?
- Are there any things in your life that mock God? Maybe you're focused more on video games than God. Perhaps it's the music you listen to.
- How can you defeat these Goliaths?
- What's the main lesson you walk away with after reading about David's faith and trust in God?



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Living Faith

How could a teenager defeat the greatest warrior of his era? Two words: God's power. David trusted God to give him the strength to defeat Goliath. He knew he couldn't defeat the ultimate soldier in his own power; David needed supernatural power, not to mention great aim.

Goliath was decked out in more than 125 pounds of armor. David probably weighed just a little more than that. Goliath had a 15-pound spear. David had five smooth stones. Odds were David would end up as a shish kabob. Instead Goliath ended up on his back.

Have your family practice its aim by playing this game. Collect eight to ten 2-liter plastic bottles. Put a couple of inches of water in the bottom of each bottle for stability and set them up as bowling pins. If you're playing the game inside, take turns throwing a pillow at the pins. Each person gets one throw. Count how many pins are knocked down. If you play outside, take turns kicking a soccer ball at the pins. Play several rounds, keep a running score and declare a winner.

When you're finished, talk about the difficulty of knocking down the pins. Now think how difficult it would've been for David to sling a stone into Goliath's forehead. According to historians, military equipment was pretty advanced at this time. Goliath most likely wore a helmet with a thin slit or visor. The giant probably underestimated David and didn't lower his visor or failed to wear a helmet. With God's help, David made a perfect shot to give Israel the victory.

Ask:

- Do you think people still underestimate God's power today?
- What are some ways to show God's power to the people around you?