



# David Defends God's Honor

1 Samuel 17



## LESSON GOAL

Students will live for the Lord's glory and depend on the Lord's strength.

## LESSON OBJECTIVES

Students will be able to

- Describe the conflict between the Philistines and Israel.
- Explain how Goliath assaulted God's honor.
- Analyze David's concern, confidence, and motivation.
- Summarize how Goliath was defeated.

## KEY VERSE

"Then all this assembly shall know that the LORD does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is the LORD's, and He will give you into our hands" (1 Samuel 17:47).

## APPLICATION

- Examine your life for areas where God is not glorified in your actions and thoughts, and repent.
- Pray that God will give you a concern for His honor.
- Depend on the Lord for strength to glorify Him.
- Commit yourself to please God no matter what the consequences.

## NEXT WEEK

God Is Sovereign over Friendships  
Read 1 Samuel 18:1–11; 20:1–42.

### Symbol Key



Craft



Memory Verse



Object Lesson



Game



Visual Aid



Activity



Q & A



Work Sheet



2 Grade Level

# Teacher Planning Sheet

## PREPARE

Objectives/Truths to cover this week

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

### Personal Application

*As a result of my study in this passage, God wants me to*

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- \_\_\_\_\_
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*Three ways students need to apply this passage are*

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- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## POINT

*Choose from various ideas to point students to the coming Bible lesson.*

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- \_\_\_\_\_

## PROCLAIM

*Choose from various ideas to proclaim the Bible lesson.*

### Presentation Ideas

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

### Praise/Music Ideas

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
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## PRACTICE

*Choose ideas to help review and apply today's lesson.*

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## Materials Needed

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## PREPARE WITH THE TRUTH

*"Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul.... You shall teach them to your children" (Deuteronomy 11:18–19).*

Please take time to prepare your mind and heart to accurately handle the truths of God's Word (2 Tim. 2:15). Read through the Bible background and study the truths contained in this lesson. Crucial background information is included here to aid you in understanding the Scripture.

### Bible Background

When Israel demanded that God give them a king like the other nations, God gave them Saul. Saul quickly demonstrated that he was more concerned with his own plans than with glorifying God. Because Saul did not honor God's commands, God rejected him as king over Israel. In his place, God chose David. Unlike Saul, who was quick to disobey and slow to repent, David was a man after God's heart. Even Saul appreciated David's character. When David played the harp for troubled Saul, Saul "loved him greatly" and made him his armorbearer (1 Sam. 16:21). Although Saul loved David, there was an integral difference between David and Saul. David was concerned for God's glory, and Saul was not. When confronted by a deadly foe who dishonored God, only David was willing to bring glory to God.

#### **Goliath Assaults God's Honor (1 Sam. 17:1–11).**

First Samuel 17 begins abruptly with a dangerous situation. God's honor was being assaulted. After an unmentioned amount of time, the Philistines had gathered their armies for a dramatic showdown with Israel at Sochoh, located in Judah about 15 miles from Bethlehem (1 Sam. 17:1). Saul responded by gathering Israel to war. Like the pieces on a chessboard, the two sides positioned themselves across from each other. On the slopes of one mountain were the Philistines, and on the slopes of another mountain were the Israelites. The valley between them was all that separated the two armies (17:2–3).

The two armies opposed each other for 40 days without doing battle (1 Sam. 17:16). Every morning and evening, a Philistine champion named Goliath came and challenged Israel to send a single Israelite to fight him (17:8–9). The nation whose representative lost would serve the other nation (17:9–10). The thought of fighting Goliath sent Israel into terror and dismay (17:11). Because they refused to depend on God, Saul and Israel were right to be terrified at the thought of fighting Goliath. Goliath was six cubits and a span tall (about 9 feet 9 inches; 17:4). His head was protected by a bronze helmet, his shins and knees by bronze armor, and his torso by a coat of mail weighing 5,000 shekels (about 125 pounds; 17:5)! Not only well-protected, Goliath was also well-armed. He carried a "bronze javelin" on his back (17:6), a sword (17:45), and a spear with an iron head weighing nearly 15 pounds (17:7). As if his armor were not enough, Goliath also was preceded by a soldier carrying his shield (17:7).

Israel's unwillingness to fight Goliath would have been understandable if it were not for the force behind Goliath's taunts. Each time he came out, Goliath said, "I defy the armies of Israel this day" (17:10). The armies of Israel represented the true God. Every time Goliath assaulted Israel, he assaulted the honor of Israel's God. David would soon say, "Who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?" (17:26). Unlike other Israelites, David understood that the reputation of the Lord was at stake.

### **David Is Jealous for God's Honor (1 Sam. 17:12–30)**

Even while serving as Saul's armorbearer (1 Sam. 16:21), David occasionally returned to shepherd his father's sheep (17:15). With the onset of war, only David's three oldest brothers (Eliab, Abinadab, and Shammah) accompanied Saul's troops (17:13–14). As the standoff continued, Jesse became curious about his sons and sent David to bring food to his brothers and to report on their welfare (17:17–18). David arrived in time to see the Israelite troops assemble for battle and to hear them again be challenged and scorned by Goliath (17:20–23). The troops reported to David that the situation had gotten so bad that Saul had promised riches, tax exemption, and even his daughter in marriage to the man who killed Goliath (17:25). Saul was unwilling to fight Goliath himself, but he would reward the man who did.

When David asked if the rumors were true, his oldest brother was insulted by David's interest. Unlike the Lord, who knows men's hearts, Eliab misjudged David. He accused David of negligence in shepherding, of a proud and insolent heart, and of eagerness to see battle (1 Sam. 17:28). Perhaps Eliab was jealous that his "baby" brother (whom he had seen anointed) was showing interest in doing what he was unwilling to do. David justified his curiosity (17:29).

### **David Prepares to Defend God's Honor (1 Sam. 17:31–40)**

On hearing of David's interest, Saul sent for him (1 Sam. 17:31). David announced his willingness to go and fight Goliath (17:32). Quite expectedly, Saul turned down his offer because David was only a youth, whereas Goliath had been fighting since his youth (17:33). David responded that since God had already delivered him "from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of the Philistine" (17:37). David's confidence was in the Lord and not in his own abilities. If the Lord had rescued him from a lion and a bear while he was shepherding (17:34–35), then surely He would allow him to kill the Philistine, "seeing he has defied the armies of the living God" (17:36). Israel represented the Lord to the nations. While Israel was defied by the idolatrous Philistine, it was the "living God" who was being dishonored. David was confident that the Lord would grant victory because his motive was the Lord's exaltation. Saul gave David permission and hoped that David would indeed be blessed by the Lord (17:37). David, who had once been the king's armorbearer, was now armed by the king himself (17:38). Unused to the armor and sword, David soon took them off (17:39); instead, he simply took his staff, five smooth stones, and a sling (17:40).

### **David Defends God's Honor (1 Sam. 17:41–58)**

As David left the Israelite ranks and entered the battlefield, Goliath came out, still protected by the Philistine soldier carrying his shield (1 Sam. 17:40–41). Goliath based his summation of David on his appearance. He "disdained him, for he was only a youth, ruddy, and good-looking" (17:42). Goliath taunted David, promising that David would be killed and left on the battlefield for the wild animals to eat (17:43–44). Most significant is that Goliath "cursed David by his gods" (17:43). Like David, Goliath knew that his victory would mean the exaltation of his gods; what Goliath didn't know was that God had promised Abraham that He would curse whoever cursed Abraham's descendants (Gen. 12:3).

Passion for the Lord consumed David. He announced that he came not with human might but "in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel" (1 Sam. 17:45). David was so certain that the Lord would give victory that he said he would cut off Goliath's head and leave his body for the wild animals, just as Goliath had threatened to do to him (17:46). David was singular in his purpose: "That all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. Then all this

assembly shall know that the LORD does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is the LORD's, and He will give you into our hands" (17:46b–47).

David's confidence was rightly placed. The Lord was victorious, and the battle was over as soon as it began. The Lord defeated Goliath with David's one perfectly aimed stone (1 Sam. 17:48–49). Taking Goliath's sword, David cut off Goliath's head (17:50). The Philistines, unwilling to serve Israel as Goliath had bargained, fled and were pursued by Israel (17:51–52). In a symbolic act, David brought the head of Goliath to Jerusalem, his future capital, which was still under Jebusite control. One day God would give David victory over Jerusalem (17:54). (In verses 55–58, Saul asked who David's father was. Although David had previously served in Saul's court, Saul seemed to be unaware where David had come from. Perhaps Saul was specifically asking about David's family since he had promised that the man who killed Goliath would marry his daughter and that the man's family would be free from taxes [17:25].)

### Conclusion

Israel was crippled with fear and unwilling to meet the imposing Goliath, but David had both right concern and right theology. David's concern was that the Lord of Israel was being mocked. David's theology included the knowledge that God's power would accomplish God's glory. His right concern and right theology resulted in a confidence that was placed in the Lord alone. David's lack of armor and military might did not matter because "the LORD does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is the LORD's" (1 Sam. 17:47). Even David's previous victories against a lion and a bear did not lead to pride. His confidence was not in his previous victories, but in the Lord who had given those victories (17:37). David was willing to be used by God and gave all glory to God. He is an example for believers of both the passion with which we must pursue the Lord's glory and of the dependence with which we must live for the Lord's glory. May the believer be able to say: "For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever" (Rom. 11:36).

## POINT TO THE TRUTH

*"Give ear, O my people, to my law; incline your ears to the words of my mouth"*  
(Psalm 78:1).

This section includes questions to review last week's lesson and ideas to prepare students for this week's lesson. Choose from the following ideas to point to the truths of this lesson.



### Review Questions

*Use these questions to review and reinforce key truths.*

Why did God reject Saul as king?

*God rejected Saul as king because Saul had disobeyed God's command to utterly destroy the Amalekites.*

What was special about Saul's appearance?

*Saul was a tall man. The Bible says that "he was taller than any of the people from his shoulders upward" (1 Sam. 10:23).*

When Samuel was looking at the sons of Jesse, what was he looking for?  
*Samuel was looking for someone who looked impressive in his outward appearance.*

What is more important to God—the appearance of a man or his heart?  
*The Bible says that “God looks at the heart” (1 Sam. 16:7).*

Why did God choose David to be the new king?  
*God chose David to be the new king because David was “a man after His own heart” (1 Sam 13:14).*

How were Saul and David anointed to be kings?  
*Samuel poured oil on them.*

What happened to David after he was anointed?  
*“The Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David” (1 Sam. 16:13).*



### Honor Assaulted

Discuss with the students what it means to dishonor someone. Explain that to dishonor someone is to slander that person's character by saying things to degrade him. Ask the students how they would feel if someone were to criticize their mom, dad, brother, or sister. It is likely that they would want to defend their family member by having the slanderer take back what he said. In today's lesson, we will see how God's honor was assaulted by the Philistines' representative Goliath. David realized that what Goliath was saying about God was not true and needed to be defended. David realized that it wasn't he who was defending God but that God would use him as a tool to defend Himself.



### What Weapon Would You Use?

Materials: play shield, helmet, javelin, spear, and breastplate; shepherd's staff; five smooth stones; slingshot

Directions: Purchase a variety of toy weapons and armor from a party store, or make them yourself from items at home. Be sure to include the last three items from the materials list. Place the weapons and armor in front of the class. Ask two or three student volunteers to put on or carry the armor they think would best protect them in battle. Ask each student to explain the reasons for his choices. Lead the class in a discussion by comparing and contrasting the armor selected by both Goliath and David. Ask the students how these men's choices revealed whether their faith was in themselves or in God.



### What Is Success?

Bring in pictures of “successful” people (athletes, business people, doctors, etc.). Ask students what they think success is. Is it getting good grades, winning a race, being the best at something, or getting recognition? Have they ever had a goal and accomplished it? Has there ever been an instance in their lives when they were successful? What did they do? Do they think that they were successful on their own strength and ability? Explain that the Bible's definition of failure and success is very different than ours. Whatever is not done by faith is sin (Rom. 14:23). Whatever is done to please God is success (2 Cor. 2:9–10). Anything done that is for God's glory is success. We will see today that against all odds, a young man was successful because he acted to please God.



## One versus One

This game is designed to help students understand the concept of representative war. Instead of an entire army fighting another army and many people dying, armies would choose their strongest soldier to represent them. Then the armies would allow only the two representatives to fight. The army of the representative who won would rule over the losing army. To play, divide the students into two teams, and have each team choose one student to be their representative. The two representatives will battle each other. Explain that the student who wins or loses represents the entire team. The two students could play a game of blowing a ping-pong ball or throwing beanbags into a bucket. Explain to the winning team that because their representative won, they all won. That is how it was with the Philistines and Israel. Goliath represented the Philistines, but Israel could not find anyone who was brave enough to represent them—until David. Just as David represented Israel, so Israel represented God. When Goliath defied Israel's army, he actually was defying God and dishonoring His name.

## PROCLAIM THE TRUTH

*"Telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and His strength and His wonderful works that He has done" (Psalm 78:4).*

This section includes the Bible lesson, lesson questions, and praise and worship ideas. Song suggestions are included that you can use to proclaim your worship to God. Use the lesson questions to check the students' understanding. This section also includes various presentation ideas to use during the teaching time. Read the Bible passage several times before you read these pages. All teaching should be done directly from the Bible.

## Bible Lesson

### Reading of the Text

Read portions of 1 Samuel 17.

### Introduction

The account of David and Goliath should remind us that there is no one stronger than God and that He can use even the weak and the small, if He chooses, to do mighty things for Him. This lesson reminds us that when God is fighting for us, those problems that appear to be big and fearful are easy for Him to handle.

### Leadoff Questions (LOQs)

**LOQ:** What was the challenge that the Israelites faced?

**Answer:** The Israelites and the Philistines were prepared for battle. The armies were ready for war. But instead of everyone fighting, a special person from the Philistine army came out to meet the Israelites. His name was Goliath. He was a champion. He called out for the Israelites to send their best man to fight him, one on one, so that the losing nation would become the servant of the other.

**LOQ:** What was Goliath like?

**Answer:** Goliath was a huge man, over nine feet tall. He was covered with armor that weighed about 125 pounds. He had weapons, too. The head of his spear weighed



about 15 pounds. [Try to give the students a sense of Goliath's presence. For example, measure out nine and ten feet against the classroom wall; ask the students their weight and compare it with the weight of Goliath's armor and spearhead.]

**LOQ:** What words did Goliath use to challenge the Israelites?

**Answer:** In 1 Samuel 17:8–9, and again in 1 Samuel 17:10, Goliath said, "I defy the ranks of Israel."

**LOQ:** When Goliath challenged the Israelites, how did they respond?

**Answer:** The Bible says in 1 Samuel 17:11 that Saul and the Israelites were "dismayed and greatly afraid."

**LOQ:** Did Saul or any of the men in the army of Israel agree to fight with Goliath? Why not?

**Answer:** No! No one accepted Goliath's challenge because they were too afraid.

**LOQ:** When David heard what Goliath said to the army of Israel (see 17:23), what was his response?

**Answer:** David asked the Israelites what would be done for the man who killed the Philistine (1 Sam. 17:26).

**LOQ:** What do you think David was thinking when he said, "Who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should taunt the armies of the living God?"

**Answer:** David was angry that a Philistine would treat God's people the way he did. To David, the Israelites were special because the Lord was their God. By saying what he did about the army of Israel, Goliath was also saying the same thing about the army of the living God.

**LOQ:** What happened to David after he spoke with his brother and other men of Israel?

**Answer:** David was brought to King Saul. David told King Saul that he would fight Goliath.

**LOQ:** When Saul told David that he was just a youth and not a warrior, what did David answer?

**Answer:** David told Saul that he had attacked and killed both a lion and a bear that had taken one of the sheep he was shepherding. In the same way that God had protected him and helped him kill the lion and the bear, He would help him kill Goliath (1 Sam. 17:34–37).

**LOQ:** Why was David so confident that he would kill Goliath?

**Answer:** David trusted God. David knew that normally a man could not kill a lion or a bear, but he had killed both a lion and a bear because God had helped him. David knew that nothing was too difficult for God to do for those who put their trust in Him.

**LOQ:** What are some things that this story tells us about David and Goliath?

**Answer:** David: a youth, young; almost no experience fighting; a shepherd; normal size; he served the Lord, the God of Israel; he had a staff, a sling and some stones, and God. Goliath: a man; a lot of experience fighting—since his youth; a warrior; a champion; huge, over nine feet tall; he served the gods of the Philistines;



he had armor all over his body, a sword, a spear, a javelin, and a shield. If anyone compared David and Goliath as men alone, Goliath would definitely be the man expected to win the fight.

**LOQ:** What was the only reason David was able to kill Goliath?

**Answer:** David tells us in 1 Samuel 17:45–48. David was not fighting Goliath by himself. He had God on his side. Not only that, but it was the Lord who was fighting for David. In 1 Samuel 17:47, David said, “The battle is the LORD’s and He will give you into our hands.”

**LOQ:** What are some other times when God fought for Israel?

**Answer:** God fought for Israel in Egypt. When Pharaoh did not want to let the Israelites leave, God sent plagues on Egypt until Pharaoh gave in. Also, when the Israelites were at the Red Sea and the Egyptians were coming to attack them to bring them back, God opened the sea so that they could walk across on dry ground. Then He drowned the Egyptian army that tried to follow. When Joshua was in the Promised Land, God fought for him, too. Wasn’t it God who caused the walls of Jericho to fall? Joshua and the Israelites obeyed God by marching around the city, but it was God who caused the walls to fall. There are many other times when God fought for His people. This time, God made sure that David would win. No matter what Goliath did, David would win because God was on his side and fighting for him.

### Summary

When Goliath, the champion of the Philistines, challenged the army of Israel, everyone was afraid because he was a giant who was sure to kill them. Even Saul, the king of Israel, was afraid of Goliath. Only David saw that when Goliath was defying the army of Israel, he was also defying the living God of Israel. David was angered by Goliath and volunteered to fight him, the enemy of Israel and of God. Even though David was a youth and not experienced or nearly as strong as Goliath, he was confident. David’s confidence came from his faith in the Lord. The Lord already had proven Himself strong through David in killing the lion and the bear. David trusted in God and knew that he would be victorious over Goliath, but only because the Lord would fight for him. God was the key to David’s victory. David knew it and counted on it.

### Application

Although all the men in the army of Israel, including King Saul, were afraid of Goliath, David was not. David believed that God would help him defeat Goliath—and God did help him. Though we do not face the same situation as David, there are still times when the only answer is for God to fight for us (help us by His power, strength, and ability).

Remember, though, that God does not always do what we want Him to do. God has His own plan. If there is a big problem and He doesn’t do what you thought He should have done, it is not because He cannot, but it is because He is wiser and knows better—God is always doing what is best and what is right for the people He loves. So no matter what happens, we should do what is right and trust that God is fighting for us, even when we do not see what He is doing. We see that when David trusted God and depended on Him, God fought for him. In the same way, if we trust God and depend on Him, He will fight for us.

## Presentation Ideas



### A Beka Book Flash-A-Cards

Use appropriate A Beka Book Flash-A-Cards with the lesson.



### Betty Lukens Flannelgraph

Use appropriate flannelgraph pieces with the lesson.



### Perspective

Bring in a pair of binoculars and look at various objects, including something to represent Goliath (such as an army man). Talk to the students about perspective—a point of view, or understanding an object's dimensions in relation to other things. Then talk about what happens when you look at something through binoculars. It gets bigger. That is how the Israelites were looking at Goliath. But what happens when you look at the same object through the other end of the binoculars? It gets smaller. While Israel looked at Goliath as a threat, God looked at the situation as an opportunity to defend and display His glory. Talk about how we look at things or problems versus how God looks at them. Our trials are opportunities to glorify God and grow in faith. (See James 1.)



### Work Gloves

Bring in a variety of gloves. Ask the students what purpose each type of glove is used for. Ask them if a glove can do work on its own. No; it needs someone's hand to fill it. Explain that gloves are simply tools to accomplish work. Most gloves need to be "broken in" before they are most effective. Bring in a well-worn baseball glove or work glove. Explain to the students that gloves are very useful to the one who broke them in. David was going to be king of Israel. He was to be God's chosen instrument to lead Israel. On the outside, it looked as if David was doing the work, but he was merely a glove through which God could do His work. In the lesson the students will see how David was moved by God to accomplish His will.



### Battle Illustrated

Help make the lesson come alive to the students by using visuals as you teach. Talk about the massive weight of Goliath's armor by bringing in plastic armor and then explaining how much Goliath's armor weighed. Use five quarter-size river rocks to illustrate David reaching down into the stream to pick up five smooth stones. Use an empty sling to illustrate David swinging his sling. You also could use a plastic sword when talking about David running up to take the sword of Goliath and cut off his head.



### Checkmate, Goliath!

Set up a chess set in front of the class. Label one side "Israel" and the other side "Philistines." Replace one of the Philistines' pawns with the king piece. Tell the class that this tall piece represents Goliath. Show the class how King Saul had positioned himself in the back of the Israelite army because he was afraid to fight. Move Goliath up two squares, and announce: "I defy the armies of Israel this day" (1 Sam. 17:10). Do this four times, representing 40 days. Explain that no one in Israel's army was willing to fight. On the fourth move, have one pawn step forward to defeat the giant. Explain that this small pawn represents David, who alone was willing to defend God's honor.



## Defeating a Giant

Goliath was a big man, probably about 9 feet 9 inches tall. He had armor all over his body and weapons that many of us probably could not even lift. Imagine how scary he must have been. How could anyone defeat such a formidable opponent? It would take a miracle. And that is exactly what it took. God used a youth and a rock to do what people thought was impossible. God directed that stone to hit Goliath's weak point and brought the giant down. Illustrate how massive Goliath was and how frightening it would have been by copying the Goliath illustration onto an overhead projection sheet. Project the image onto butcher paper taped to a wall at 9 feet 9 inches tall. Use a marker to trace the projected image. Students can later color in this image as a class.

## Praise and Worship

*Cleanse Me*

*Create in Me a Clean Heart*

*I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*

*Little David, Play on Your Harp*

*Living for Jesus*

*Only a Boy Named David*

*Seek Ye First*

## PRACTICE THE TRUTH

*"That they may set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments" (Psalm 78:7).*

Choose ideas from this section to review and apply the truths of the Bible lesson.



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### Sling Craft

Materials: 3x1½-inch pieces of felt, 9-inch pieces of yarn, small rocks, construction paper, glue, scissors

Directions: Have the students punch holes in the middle of the long ends of a felt strip. Give each student two pieces of yarn. Have the students tie yarn through the holes in the felt and then glue a rock to the center of the felt. The entire sling can then be glued to a piece of construction paper. Write the key verse at the bottom of page. Allow time for the glue to dry.



### Paper Figures: David and Goliath

Materials: copies of the paper-doll figures (at back of lesson), crayons, scissors

Directions: The paper figures of David and Goliath have a twofold purpose. First, you can use them to illustrate the key points of the story. Second, students can color them in class and take them home to act out what they learned. Cut the base at the feet of each character upward half an inch from the bottom. This will allow the characters to stand freely.



## Calendar

Materials: blank calendar (at back of lesson), crayons, verse, glue)

Directions: This month, have the students record each time they live for the Lord's glory and depend on His strength. (If one particular focus is used for this lesson, label it accordingly.) This exercise will help students recognize and appreciate the strength that God gives and how often they live for His glory when situations arise.

Give each student a blank calendar to title, decorate, and date for the particular month or series of days for the exercise. Instruct the students to put the calendar where they will remember to fill it in over the next four weeks. Encourage students to bring in their calendars when they are complete to share some of their experiences.



## Knocking down Goliath

Materials: butcher paper, black marker, strong tape, one-inch marshmallow or beanbag, two 18-inch pieces of string, sling template, scissors, tape, cardstock

Directions: Instruct the students to create a sling like David would have used to strike Goliath. (Remind the students before they make the sling that slings can be very dangerous and that they must follow your directions carefully. They must not put anything into the sling unless you have instructed them to do so.) Instruct students to cut out the sling template along the solid lines. They can then punch out the four holes. They should overlap the two holes on each side and use a small piece of tape to keep the pieces together. It should end up looking like a small boat. They can then tie one end of each string to each hole.

Variation: Use the Goliath image from the "Defeating a Giant" visual aid in the Proclaim section for this activity. Students can take turns trying to hit Goliath with their slings. The students should hold the two strings between different fingers. When the object in the sling is on the correct trajectory, one of the strings between the thumb and index finger can be released. The object will leave the circular motion and proceed in a straight line towards the object. This may take some practice. Discuss with the students how difficult it is to use a sling. Explain that God was actually the one in control of the rock that David used to strike Goliath in the forehead.



## Remembrance Rock

Materials: smooth, flat stones (about the size of a child's hand); verse cards (at back of lesson); glue

Directions: Give each student a stone, and explain that it is a reminder that we are to defend God's glory and that the battle is His. Instruct the students to cut out the verse to fit the flat surface of their stone. They can then cover the back of the verse card with glue and paste it to the stone. (Be sure to instruct the students not to ever throw a stone or any object at anyone.)



## Defending God's Glory in Your Life

Ask the students how people dishonor God. How have they seen people not love God as they should? The students may name things such as not trusting in God, taking God's name in vain, talking badly about Christians, etc. Help the students to think of ways that they can defend God's honor. Some examples might be honoring God with their own lives and being a good example, defending God when they hear someone take His name in vain, etc. Remind the students of their need to trust in the Lord for the strength to glorify Him and defend His name.



## "David Defends God's Honor"

Use this work sheet to reinforce the key truths of today's lesson. The work sheet is located at the back of the lesson.



### **Journal Page: "Defending God's Glory"**

Give each student a copy of the journal page at the back of this lesson. The students can complete the page individually, in small groups, or at home.

### **Coloring Sheets**

Give each student copies of the coloring sheets at the back of the lesson. Students can color the pages in class or at home.

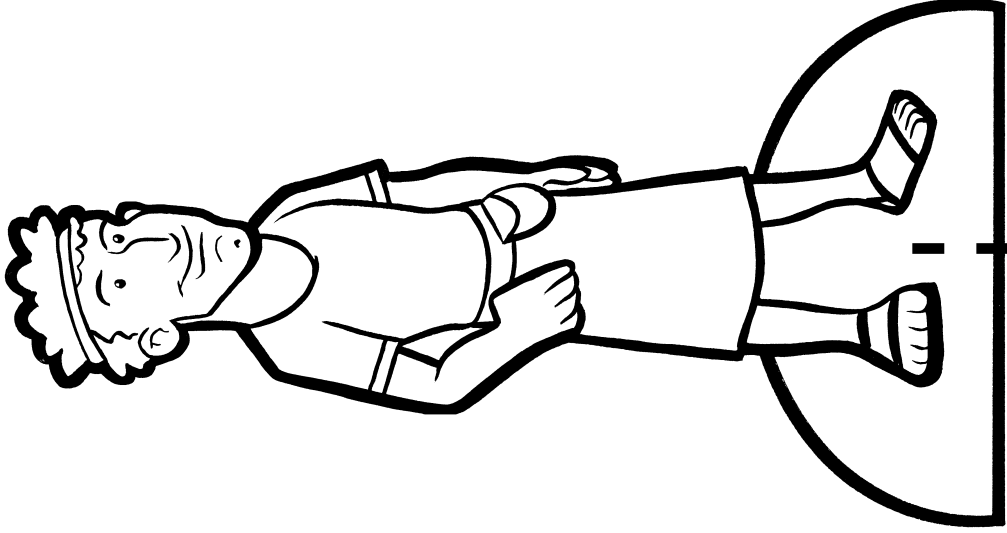


### **MEMORY VERSE**

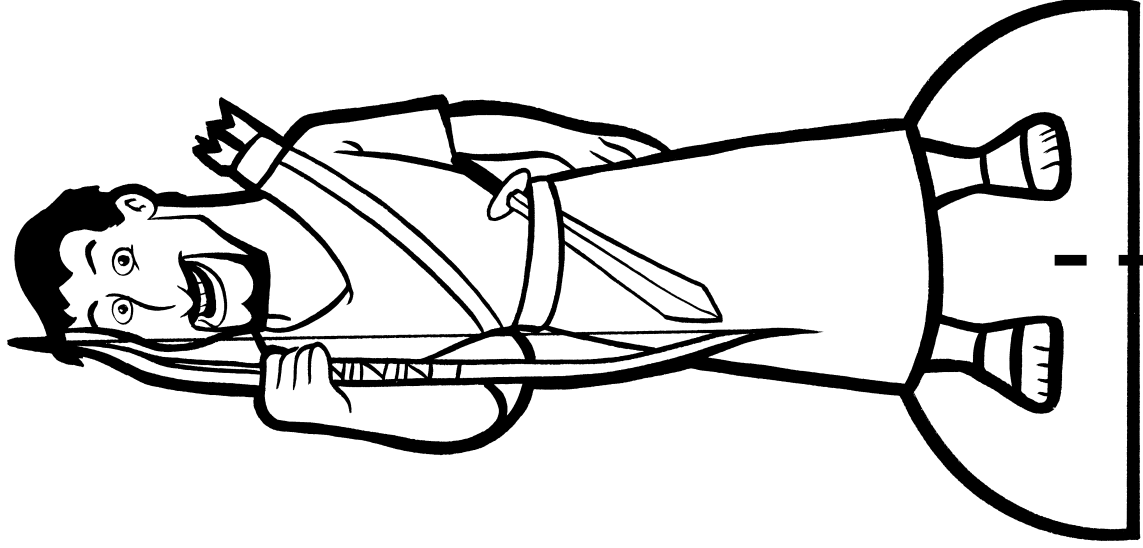
"You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied" (1 Samuel 17:45b).



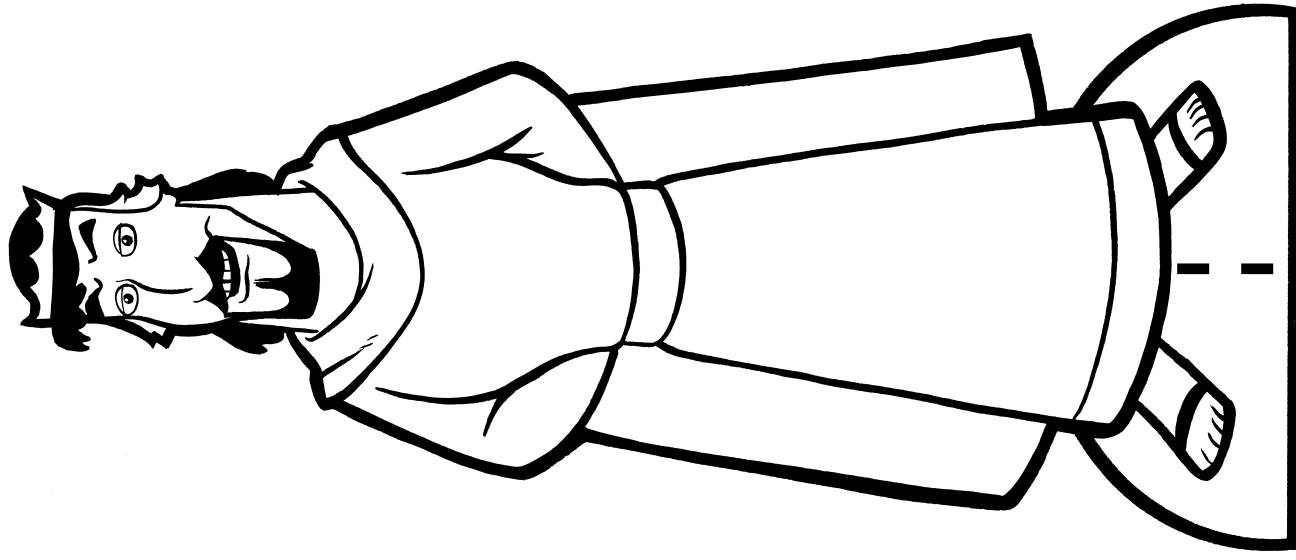
# Paper Dolls



David



Jonathan

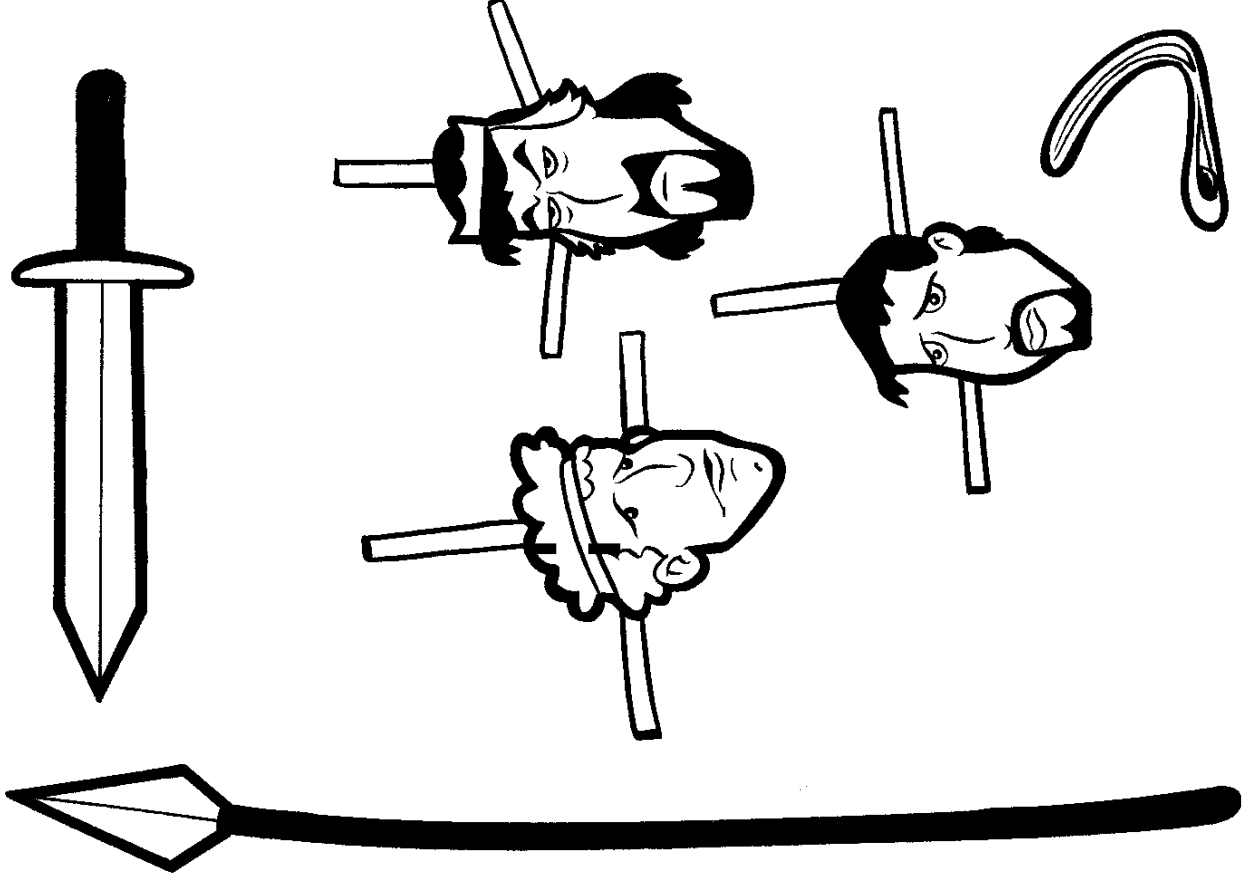
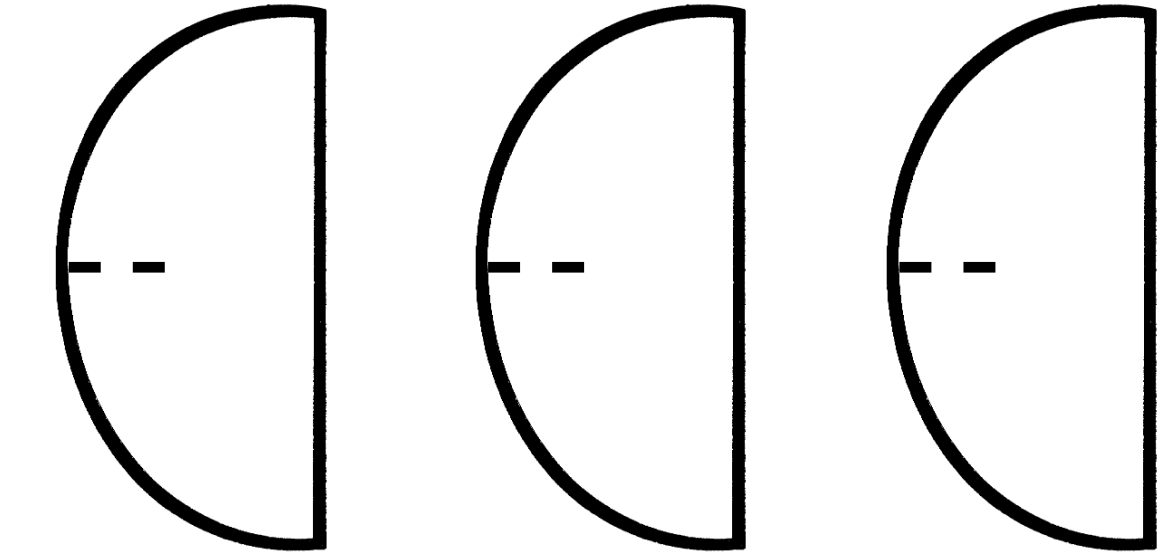


Saul





# Paper Dolls

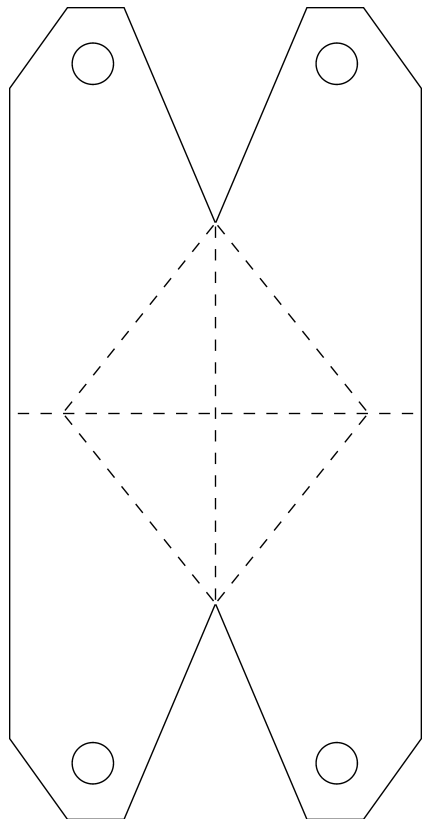
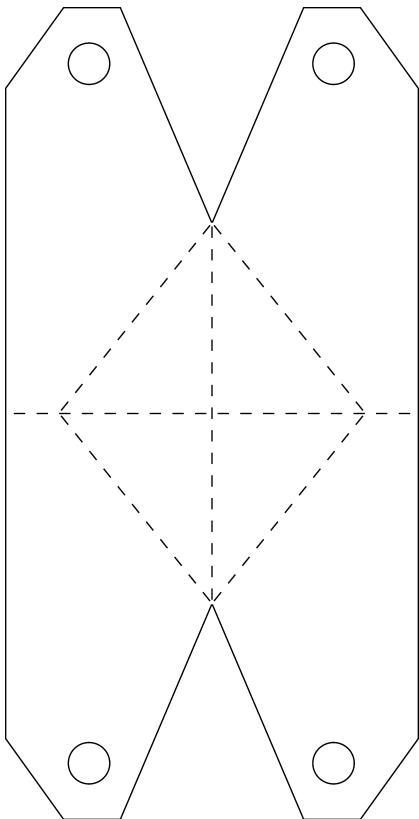
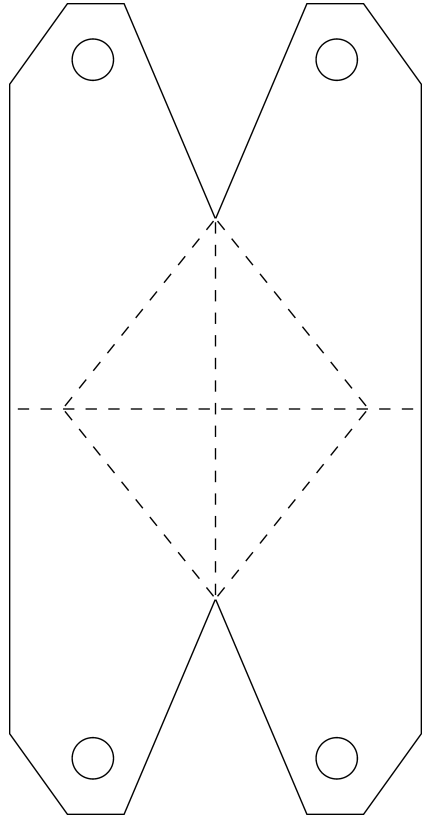
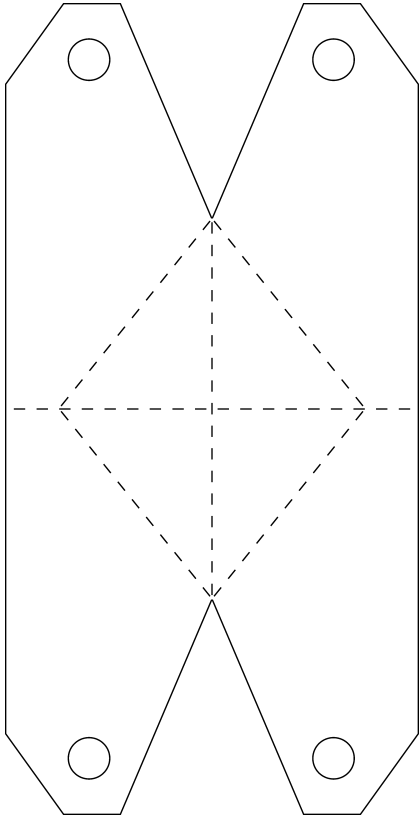








# Sling Template





# Remembrance Rock

"The battle is  
the LORD's"  
(1 Samuel 17:47).

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# David *Defends* God's *Honor*



1 Samuel 17

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Read 1 Samuel 17:4–7 and list three things about Goliath's appearance.

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2. Goliath defied the armies of \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Sam. 17:26).

3. Who was willing to fight Goliath? \_\_\_\_\_

4. What weapons did David use to fight Goliath? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Whom did David trust for victory? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Fill in the blanks from 1 Samuel 17:47.

"Then all the assemble shall know that the \_\_\_\_\_ does not save  
with \_\_\_\_\_ and spear; for the \_\_\_\_\_ is the LORD's, and  
He will \_\_\_\_\_ you into our \_\_\_\_\_."



# Defending God's Glory

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"Then all this assembly shall know that the LORD does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is the LORD's and He will give you into our hands" (1 Samuel 17:47).

When you are trying to make the right choice, do you ever ask yourself, "What would Jesus want me to do?" If you do, you are seeking to make a choice based on what pleases God and brings Him glory. David was concerned about God's glory, too. He was so concerned for God's glory that he did what no one else would do—he confronted Goliath, the 9'9" giant!

In 1 Samuel 17:37, David tells us why he was not afraid to fight Goliath. Write the verse below:

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---

---

David was not afraid to go out against Goliath with a few small weapons because he was not putting his faith in his weapons but in God. It was God who used David and his little weapons to defeat a great giant. Unscramble the words below to find what David took to the battle.

VFIE ENSTOS \_\_\_\_\_

TAHIF \_\_\_\_\_

ISLGN \_\_\_\_\_

ATFSF \_\_\_\_\_

# Defending God's Glory

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TAHIF \_\_\_\_\_

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ATFSF \_\_\_\_\_

You probably never will be taunted by a 9'9" giant as Israel was. But you will be assaulted by principalities and powers of darkness who dishonor God. These principalities and powers want you to make wrong choices and dishonor God. Do you know how to confront them and fight for God's glory?

You can fight with confidence as David did by knowing God and knowing what He is able to do. David knew that God is worthy of glory, and he knew that God had helped him kill a bear and a lion and would help him defeat Goliath, too. Knowing God and His power builds faith and enables you to fight for His glory. Paul says in 2 Timothy 1:12, "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that day."

If you have received Christ as your Savior, you already have started on the path of knowing God. God's Word and your acknowledgment of how He is working in your life will help you know more about Him.

Some of the ways Christ is working in my life are: \_\_\_\_\_

When I am fighting a battle, I know that Christ wants me to \_\_\_\_\_

I am persuaded (confident) that Christ is able to \_\_\_\_\_

This week I will learn more about Christ by \_\_\_\_\_

**PRAYER**

Thank Christ that He is holy and powerful and willing to help you. Acknowledge that the battle is His and for His glory. Praise Him for His great glory. Ask Him to help you learn more about Him each day.

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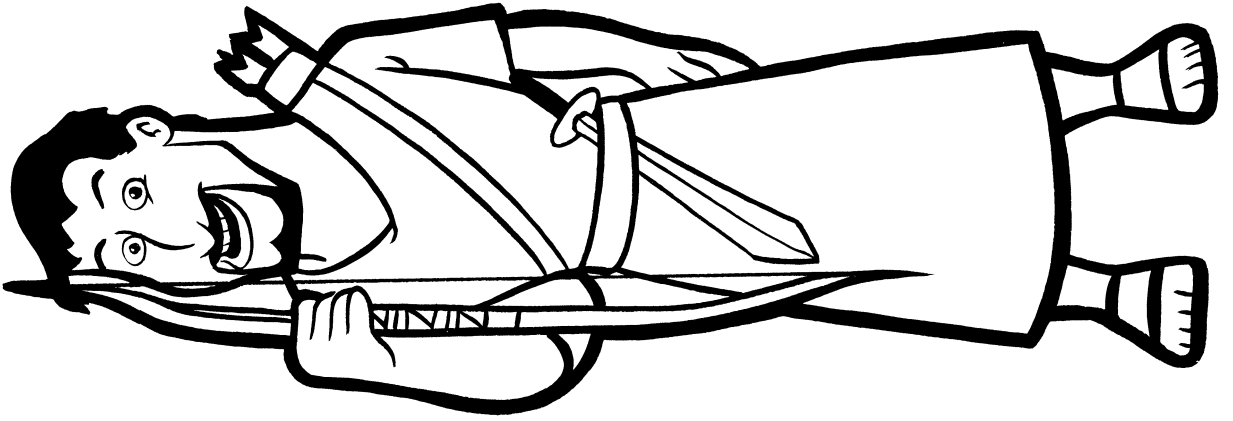
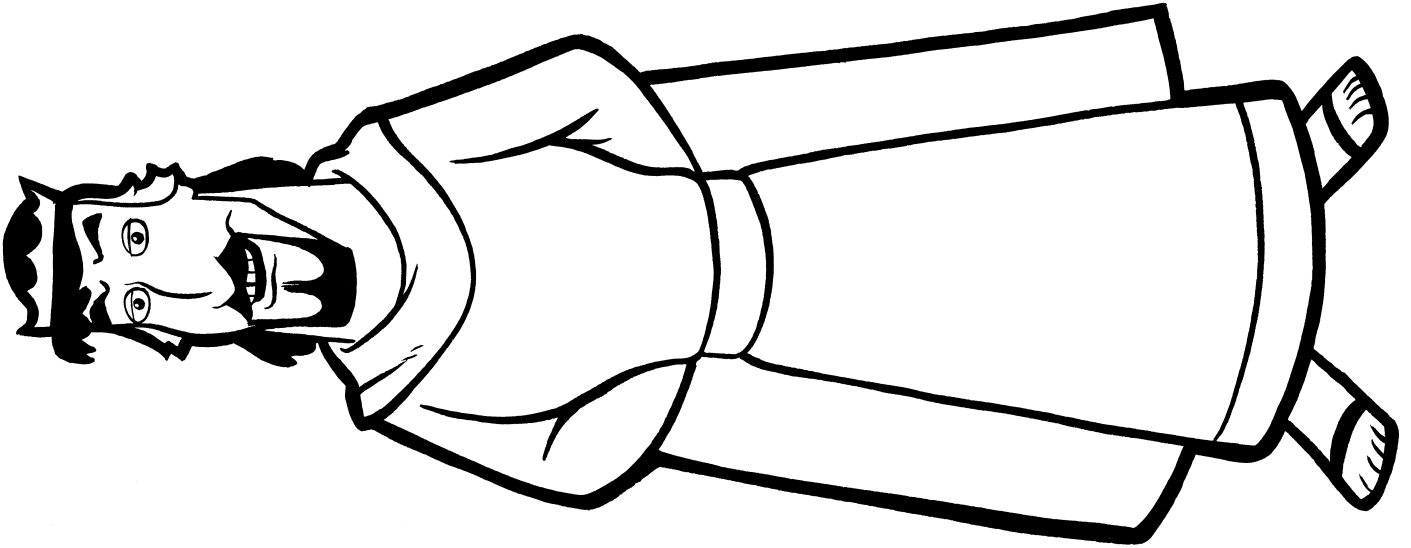
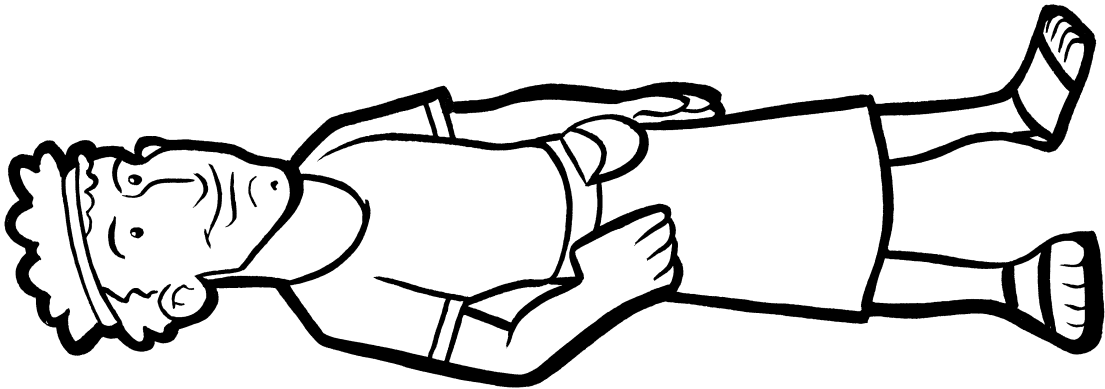
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I am persuaded (confident) that Christ is able to \_\_\_\_\_

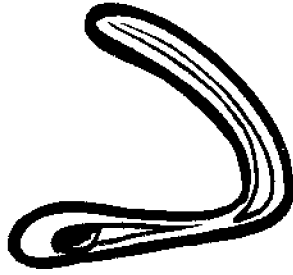
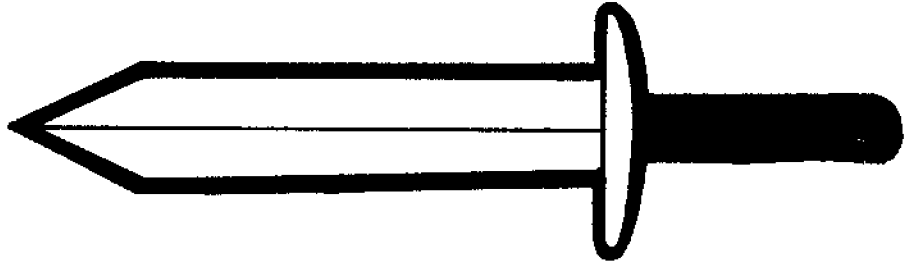
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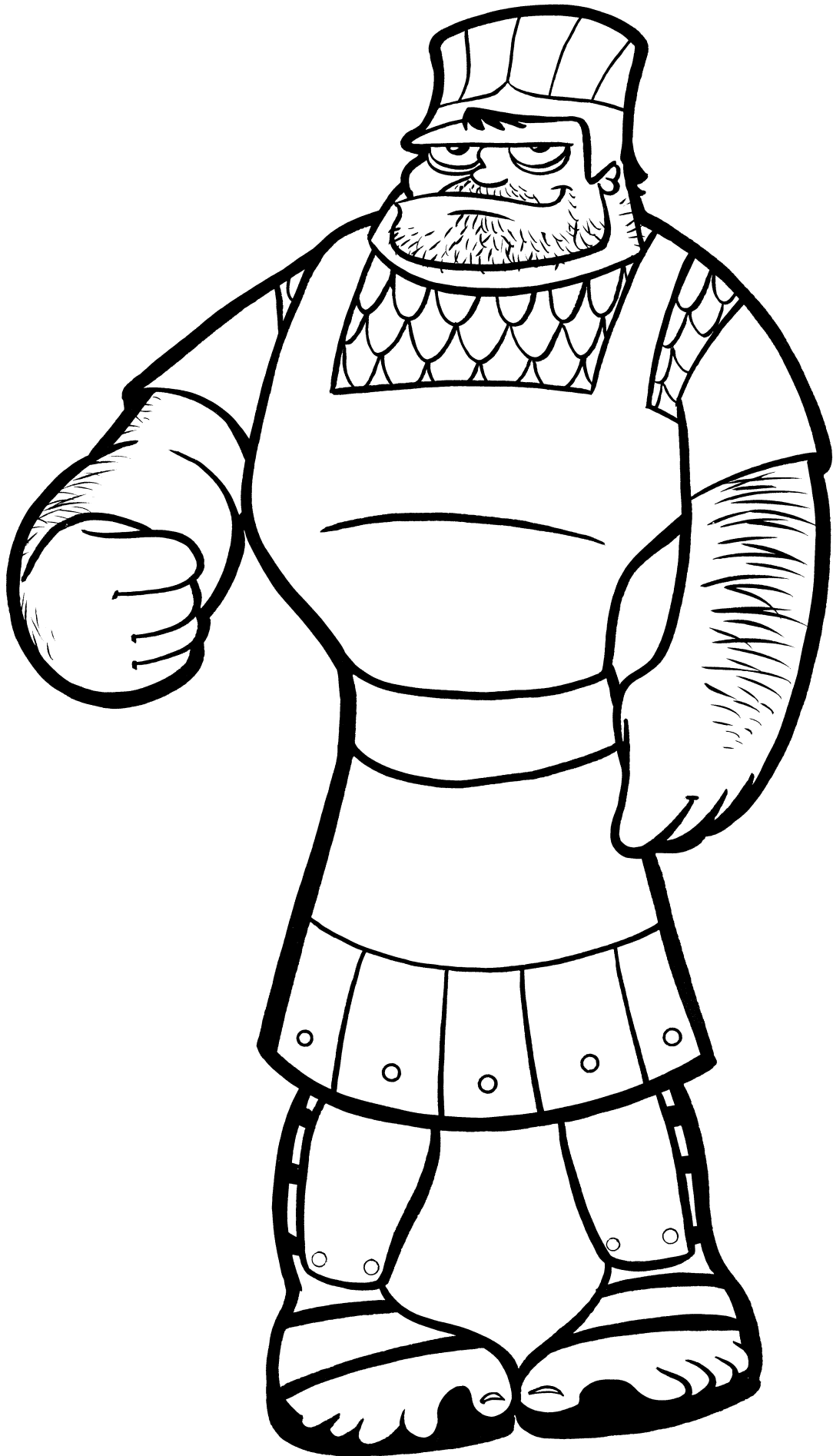




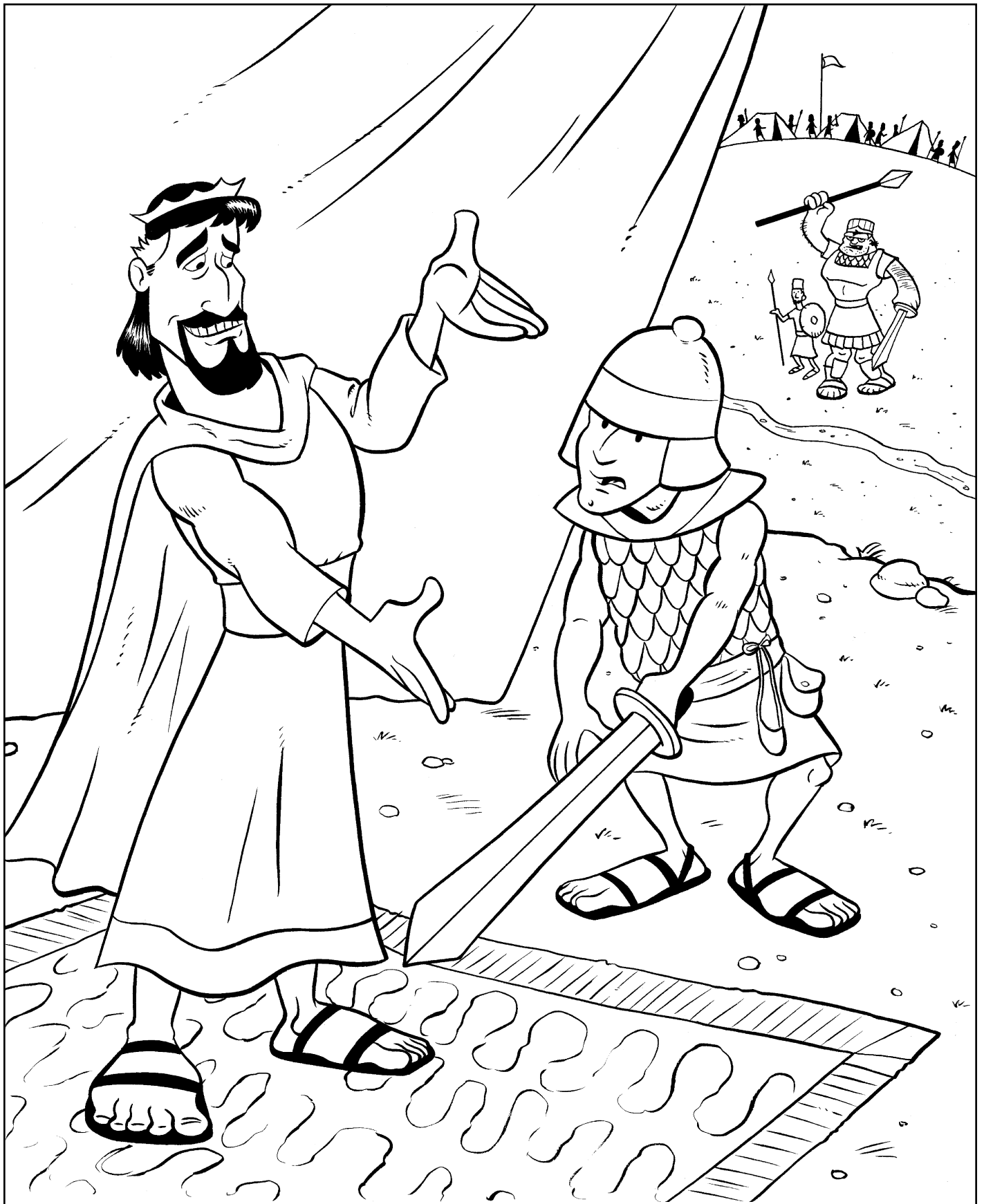












**Saul put his armor on David, but it was too heavy, and David could not walk. So David took his staff, five smooth stones, and his sling to fight Goliath (1 Samuel 17:38–40).**





**“Then David put his hand in the bag and took out a stone; and he slung it and struck the Philistine in his forehead, so that the stone sank into his forehead, and he fell on his face to the earth” (1 Samuel 17:49).**

