



Lesson 12

Victory!

Large Group Lesson & Games

<p>Bible Story</p> <p>David and Goliath</p> <p><i>1 Samuel 17</i></p>	<p>Materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Bible• A dodgeball
<p>Bible Verse</p> <p>“But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ.”</p> <p><i>1 Corinthians 15:57, New Living Translation</i></p>	
<p>Key Teaching Point</p> <p>Receive God’s Victory!</p>	



Large Group Lesson

(15 Minutes)

Before you begin the Bible story, divide the large group into five groups and assign each group one of the following: David, Goliath, Saul, and Israel’s Army

When the person or group of people they’ve been assigned is mentioned in the story, the group should stand up and chant:

- David: **“You come with me with a spear and a sword, I come to you in the name of the Lord!”** (Instruct students to stand up and point to God.)
- Goliath: **“Choose a man to challenge me. If I win, our servants you’ll be!”** (Instruct students to stand up tall and on their tiptoes.)
- Saul: **“David’s just a boy...Goliath will destroy...my armor we’ll employ!”** (Instruct students to stand up and tap their finger on the side of their head as if they are thinking of an idea.)
- Israel’s army: **“Goliath has us shaking like a leaf! He’s ginormous, we’ll never find relief!”** (Instruct students to stand up and shake in fear!)

As you read the Bible story, pause every time you say either, “David,” “Goliath,” “Saul” or “Israel’s army” to give the group a moment to stand up and respond.

The Philistines were enemies of God’s people. The Philistines already had a mightier army than the Israelites, so the situation was already looking grim. To make matters worse, the Philistines had a war champion, Goliath, who had been trained for battle since he was young!

Goliath was nine feet tall, and he had impressive armor made of bronze. He carried an iron spear and a bronze sword. He even had a personal armor bearer who walked ahead of him carrying a shield!

He declared a challenge for all Israel’s army to hear: “Choose a man for yourselves and let him come and challenge me. If he can fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants. But if I can fight and kill him, then you will be our servants and serve us!”

Saul and Israel’s army heard Goliath’s challenge and shook with fear! Not one soldier stepped forward to fight, so Goliath took his stand every morning for forty days. He declared his challenge daily for all to hear, poking fun at Israel’s army and at God!

David left his father’s sheep behind to bring some food to his oldest brothers who were soldiers of Israel’s army. As David was catching up with his brothers, he heard Goliath’s challenge. When no soldiers volunteered and stepped forward, David began asking the soldiers around him, “What is the reward for the man who defeats this Giant?”



When King Saul overheard that David was talking to the soldiers about the Giant, he called for him. The boy approached Saul and said, “I will go and fight this Philistine. No longer shall Israel’s army be troubled and afraid because of the Goliath, for they are the army of the living God!”

King Saul thought David was too young and too inexperienced to face a war champion. He was not a soldier but a shepherd! As a shepherd, David experienced God’s rescue from the lions and bears that attacked his sheep, so he trusted that God would show his saving power again! So King Saul clothed the boy in armor and tried to send him on his way.

David didn’t get very far, the armor was just too heavy for the young shepherd. He didn’t have any experience with the armor, so he set the armor aside to take up his shepherd staff, five smooth stones and his sling and went on his way.

When Goliath saw the shepherd boy, he laughed at him, saying “Am I a dog, that you come at me with sticks?” David replied, (Pause for David’s group to say the line: “You come to me with a sword and a spear, I come to you in the name of the Lord!”) He will deliver you into my hands, and I will strike you down! This is so that everyone will know that it is the God of Israel who saves!”

David put a stone in his sling and hurled it at the Giant’s forehead. The mighty Giant, tall and strong, covered in impressive armor, fell to the ground. Using the Giant’s own sword, David cut off Goliath’s head! God had given him the victory!

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In reading this story, we all want to be like David, right? Yet, in fighting our enemies of sin and death, we’re not like David but more like the Israelite army, afraid and unable to do anything about our sin and its consequences in our lives. But God did something about it! He sent his Son to the earth to win the battle for us, but the giant Jesus faced was death, death on a cross. Just like David had the strength to face Goliath because he knew that God was with him, Jesus had the strength to take our sin upon himself and die on the cross because the Father was with him. In the end, Jesus was victorious over sin and death, and he offers us that same victory if we trust and follow him!

As David conquered Goliath, David delivered the Israelite army from their fears! Jesus was saved from death, and he rose to life again by the Spirit of God that was inside of him. All who believe in Jesus and look to his work on the cross and his resurrection from the dead on their behalf get to enjoy his



victory over death just like the Israelite army got to enjoy David's victory over Goliath!

We'll talk more about the victory we receive in Jesus in our small groups today.



Large Group Games

(25 Minutes)

GUARD YOUR LINE

Materials: A Dodgeball

Divide the students into two teams. Have each of the two teams stand on opposite baselines of the gym. Have the players on each team number off from one to however many students there are. In the middle of the gym, place a dodgeball. The games leader will call a number (or two or three numbers), and the players with this (these) number(s) will run out to the middle of the gym and try to kick the ball across the opposing team's line.

ROCK PAPER SCISSORS TOURNAMENT

No Materials Needed

Teach students the basic instructions for Rock, Paper, Scissors. Every player must find a partner and on the count of three, they must choose the hand signal for Rock, Paper or Scissors.

- Rock: Make a fist
- Paper: Lay hand flat
- Scissors: Make a V with index and middle finger

Then, determine which player wins that challenge. Rock beats Scissors, Scissors beats Paper, and Paper beats Rock. (If students make the same hand signal, they should try again until there is a winner.)

To play the tournament, students will pair off and complete challenges. You can have all players go on the count of three, and then instruct all the losing players to sit down or go to one side of the playing area, and all the winning players should find another winning player to be their new partner. Continue running challenges until there are only two students remaining, who will pair off to determine who is the champion.

