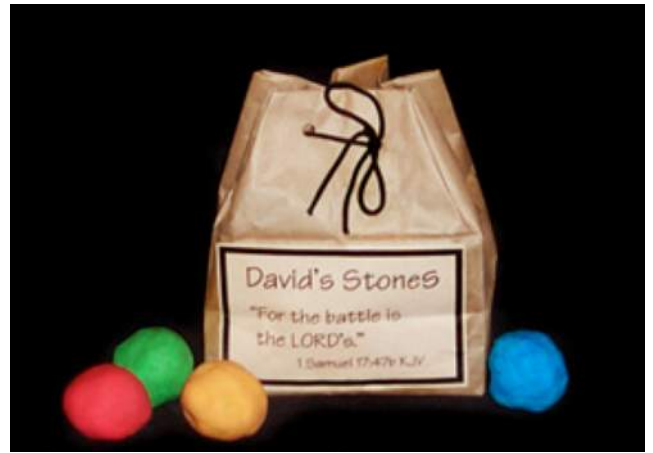


David's 5 Stones and Bag

SCRIPTURE: 1 Samuel 17 (*children's version to follow*)

Goliath was a giant who thought he was a big, tough man, but he forgot two important things -- God is stronger than anything or anyone, and David had God on his side. David had a bag of 5 stones, which represented:

1. Faith
2. Obedience
3. Service
4. Prayer
5. The Gift of the Holy Spirit



What You Need

- Brown lunch bags
- Template (*to follow*)
- String
- Hole punch
- Glue
- Large marshmallows (*each child needs 5*) **OR**
- Colored play dough (*red, green, yellow, orange, and blue*) - you may either buy at store or make yourself using food coloring, water, baking soda and cornstarch

To make the PLAY DOUGH: Add food coloring into 1¼ cups of cold water and mix. Place a 1-pound box of baking soda, one cup of cornstarch, and the 1¼ cups of cold water in a saucepan. Cook over low heat until the dough looks like mashed potatoes. Remove from the heat. Cover it with a damp cloth until it cools and then store in a plastic bag. This dough gets very hard. It feels a little gritty so have some wet paper towel available for the children. Repeat for each color.

Preparation before Activity

- Make copies of template for each child
- Make a sample craft ahead of time.
- Cut string the same length for your students.

What To Do

1. Fold the top of the bag down towards the inside of the bag 1 1/2". Fold it back three times so that your bag stands about 5 1/2" high. Punch (5) holes around the top portion of bag evenly spaced. Punch two in the front, two in the back, and one on each side.
2. Print out the bag labels onto brown paper, cut them out, and glue to the front of the bag.
3. Cut a length of string and weave it in and out of the holes starting in the front.
4. Instruct students to place their 5 stones in their bag: **The 5 smooth stones represent: Faith, Obedience, Service, Prayer, and the Gift of the Holy Spirit.**
 - **IF USING MARSHMALLOWS:** Give each child 5 to represent David's 5 stones.
 - **IF USING PLAY DOUGH:** Give each child a portion of each color (*red, green, yellow, orange, and blue*). Instruct them to roll into balls to represent David's stones.

David's Stones

1. Faith
2. Obedience
3. Service
4. Prayer
5. Gift of the Holy Spirit

For the battle is the Lord's.
1 Samuel 17:47

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The Lesson

PREPARATION: Before class draw a big ugly face on a piece of poster board. Bring in a yard stick or ruler, and measure up nine feet, while standing on a step ladder or something secure, mark off nine feet to show the children how big that is. If possible, tape the face to the wall at nine feet.

SAY: Have you ever been dared by anyone to do something? Have you ever dared someone to do something? Usually when we dare someone to do something, we are too scared to do it ourselves. (*Talk about dares. Let the children share their ideas and experiences. Talk about how it is wrong to dare someone to do something that is dangerous or bad.*) It is wrong to dare someone to do something to prove they aren't scared.

The Bible tells us to treat others better than ourselves. Our story today is about a man named Goliath who gave a dare. He thought he was tough and he wanted to prove it. Goliath was a big man. As a matter of fact, he was considered a giant. He stood over nine feet tall! (*Point to the face of Goliath on the wall.*) Yes, Goliath was a big man and he thought he was better and stronger than anyone and he wanted to prove it.

At this time there was a war going on. The Philistine army was on one hill; Israel's army was on another hill, and they were facing each other. The giant Goliath was fighting for the Philistine army. Goliath wore a bronze helmet to protect his big head, a bronze coat of armor, and he carried a huge spear in his hand. Goliath must have looked pretty scary.

When it was time to fight, Goliath would come out and stand on the hill and yell across to the other hill where the Israelites were camped. He dared someone to come and fight him, but no one on the Israelite side would fight him. Every day for forty days Goliath dared someone in the Israelite army to come and fight him, but no one would do it.

Now in the Israelite army, there was a family of brothers. And the brothers also had a little brother named David who was still at home taking care of his father's sheep. One day, David's father, asked him to take some food to his brothers.

David took the food to his brothers, and when he got there, he heard Goliath spouting off as usual, daring someone to come and fight him. Again, no one would fight Goliath.

David could see that they were all afraid. But David wasn't afraid; he spoke up and said, "I'll fight Goliath." David wasn't afraid because he knew that God was with him. He remembered the times that God had helped him before. Once he had helped him fight off a lion that was attacking his sheep. And another the time God had helped him pull a lamb from the mouth of a bear.

David went and found five smooth stones and put them in his bag. Then he took his sling and went up to fight Goliath. When Goliath saw David, he started to make fun of him. He said, "How dare you come and fight me with sticks and stones. Do you think I am a dog? Where is your sword?" David stood his ground and said to him. "You may think your tough, with your sword and spear, but I have God on my side and he is stronger than anyone." So David reached into his bag and pulled out a stone. He put the stone in his sling. He slung the sling around and "plunk!" The stone hit Goliath right in the middle of the forehead. Goliath fell to the ground; he was as dead as a doornail.

When all the other Philistines saw that Goliath was dead, they ran away. The Israelites all cheered for David!

Conclusion: Goliath thought he was a big, tough man, but he forgot two important things -- God is stronger than anything or anyone, and David had God on his side.

David and Goliath *(children's version)*

by Sharla Guenther

Saul had been king, but he kept disobeying God so God asked Samuel to find a new king. God said to Samuel, "Go to Bethlehem and there is a man named Jesse with eight sons. One of them will be the next king."

When Samuel first met the sons he automatically thought that the oldest son named Eliab would be the king that God had chosen. But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look at the way he looks or how big he is. Eliab is not the one I have chosen, the way he looks doesn't matter to me, I look at the heart."

Jesse brought more of his sons to meet Samuel but none of them God had chosen either. Samuel asked Jesse, "Have I met all your sons?" Jesse replied, "I have one son left named David, he's the youngest, and he's out looking after the sheep. I will bring him here to meet you."

As soon as Samuel saw him the Lord spoke to him and said, "He is the one." So Samuel anointed him with oil which was a special way of promising him that he would be the next king. And from that day on the power of the Lord was with David.

David continued to take care of his father's sheep in the fields. When he didn't have much to do in the field he played instruments, and wrote songs and poems that you can find in the book of Psalms in your Bible.

Meanwhile Saul was still king and he ruled people called Israelites. David and his family were Israelites too. The Israelites weren't getting along with people named the Philistines.

The problem with the Philistines was that they had many giants living in their land. One of the strongest and biggest giants was named Goliath. He was over nine feet tall, which is taller than any person recorded in the Guinness Book of World Records. He would've had to bend way down to get through a regular door.

Goliath was covered with armor to protect him and carried a big spear. Every morning and every evening for forty days he shouted to the Israelites in his big deep voice, "Hey, you guys! I dare you to find one man to fight me. If he can beat me we will become your servants, but if I win you will all become our servants."

When Saul and all his men heard this they were very afraid. Three of these men were David's three oldest brothers. They were the only ones in David's family that could go fight because they were old enough.

Now David's father Jesse heard about the giant and was worried for his sons. He called David out of the fields and asked him to take some food to his brothers and report back how they are doing.

So David set off to visit his brothers. As he approached them he heard Goliath shouting his challenge like he did every morning. "Isn't someone going to stand up to this man?" David asked the men in the army. "Then I will fight this giant Philistine."

One of the men overheard this and ran to Saul and told him what David said. Saul approached David and said, "You can't fight Goliath, you're only a boy and he has been fighting for many years." But David said to Saul, "I have had to fight lions and bears to protect my father's sheep. God helped keep me safe then and he will help keep me safe now."



It was too bad that Saul the king wasn't trusting in God to help him, he didn't know what to do to beat Goliath. Then this young boy named David came and he knew in one day exactly what to do, and trusted that God would help him. That's why God loved David's heart and wanted him to be king.

So Saul dressed David in heavy armor to protect him from Goliath but David took it off. It was so heavy he could hardly walk and he knew that God would keep him from harm. Instead David went to a stream nearby and found five smooth stones, put them in a pouch around his waist, and with his sling he went to Goliath.

As David approached Goliath, Goliath looked at David and thought it was a joke. Goliath thought that he could easily beat David and it was funny that Saul would send a small boy to fight him. But David said to him without fear, "You fight with a sword and I come with God on my side and today everyone will know that there is one true God in this land."

Goliath didn't care what David said and he moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly to meet him. Reaching into his pouch he pulled out a stone, put it into his slingshot and shot it at Goliath. The stone had hit him right between his eyes and suddenly Goliath started to lose his balance.

He fell with a loud thud right on his face. David had done it! He beat the giant Philistine! When the rest of the Philistines saw this they ran away and David became a hero to all the people in Israel.