**1. Motivate**

What is the most chaotic day you’ve had in recent weeks?

* a moving day
* getting ready for a wedding in the family
* going to a child’s dance recital
* getting all the kids to their activities on a Saturday
* getting everyone ready for church in the Easter duds
* packing for a vacation
* getting home from vacation
* hosting a family reunion, power went out, kitchen drain clogged, etc.
* someone in the family had a health emergency
* car broke down on a trip

**2. Transition**

We never know exactly what each day will bring.

* Know that God will help us meet and defeat big challenges
* Faith moves with confidence in God

**3. Bible Study**

A video introduction to the Bible study is available. View it at <https://tinyurl.com/473vbmp5> . If you have no wi-fi where you teach, it is best to download the video file to your computer from <https://tinyurl.com/z6cdstshv>

3.1 Adversity: Display Your Faith

Listen for an NBA potential draft pick.

1 Samuel 17:3-8 (NIV) The Philistines occupied one hill and the Israelites another, with the valley between them. 4 A champion named Goliath, who was from Gath, came out of the Philistine camp. He was over nine feet tall. 5 He had a bronze helmet on his head and wore a coat of scale armor of bronze weighing five thousand shekels; 6 on his legs he wore bronze greaves, and a bronze javelin was slung on his back. 7 His spear shaft was like a weaver's rod, and its iron point weighed six hundred shekels. His shield bearer went ahead of him. 8 Goliath stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, "Why do you come out and line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not the servants of Saul? Choose a man and have him come down to me.

Lets list the specifics which caused Goliath to appear to be so invincible.

* over 9 ft tall
* bronze helmet
* coat of armor of bronze (125 pounds)
* shin protectors of bronze
* bronze javelin
* spear
* sword
* shield carried by an armor bearer

Why do you think the writer goes into such detail?

* it’s so amazing
* nothing like that seen before
* to illustrate why the Israelite army was shaking in their boots
* they had good reason to be afraid
* shock effect against Philistine enemies

What challenge did he offer to the army of Saul?

* one on one battle
* winner take all

In what ways is Goliath challenging more than just Israel’s army?

* he’s also challenging the Israelite’s God
* it’s an in your face confrontation
* you can’t beat me because I’m more powerful than what your God can do for you

What kind of “giants” can we face in our lives—something overwhelming or intimidating?

* heavy work responsibility
* serious health issue (cancer, disabling injury, weakened by disease)
* dissolving relationship in family (with children, with parents, with spouse)
* prodigal, rebellious child
* difficult neighbor, hard to live with
* finances failing
* responsible for aging parents

What are some ways people typically respond when they are up against a situation that seems impossible to overcome?

* “When you worry, when you doubt, run incircles, scream and shout!”
* cry
* buckle down and take care of it
* pray
* drop back 5 yards and punt
* seek advice
* ask for help from parents
* blame the government

3.2 Experience Grows Faith

Listen for Saul’s objection to David’s proposal.

1 Samuel 17:32-37 (NIV) David said to Saul, "Let no one lose heart on account of this Philistine; your servant will go and fight him." 33 Saul replied, "You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him; you are only a boy, and he has been a fighting man from his youth." 34 But David said to Saul, "Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, 35 I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. 36 Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. 37 The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine." Saul said to David, "Go, and the LORD be with you."

Why was Saul skeptical about David’s ability to defeat Goliath?

* you can’t go fight him
* you’re just a boy
* Goliath has been a fighting man since he was a youth

What are words and phrases that show how confident David was when he met the king?

* I’ll go and fight him, let’s not all lose heart
* I’ve protected my father’s sheep from wild animals (lions, bears)
* I’ve chased them, grabbed them, clobbered them and killed them
* this guy will be just like one of them

What do you think motivated Saul to dress David in his armor?

* Goliath had armor, it was the way to do battle
* a soldier had to have the right equipment
* Saul didn't think "outside the box"
* Saul didn't take God's empowering presence into account
* This is just a kid, we've got to give him some kind of advantage or protection

What kinds of things do we try to use as "armor" against our "Goliaths"?

* go to others for advice
* try to find a better doctor
* look up answers on the internet
* find a book about the subject
* get mad and sue
* spend money to solve the problem

David rejected the armor … what was the source of his courage and confidence?

* God had protected him from a lion and bear
* God would rescue him from Goliath in the same way
* the armor was probably too big
* he was not trained in its use
* physical resources were inadequate

What sources do we have for courage and confidence?

* God's Word
* the Holy Spirit at work in our lives
* godly wisdom from mature believers
* the prayer of fellow believers
* God's power working in the situation

3.3 Faith Moves Us Forward

Listen for David’s response to trash talk.

1 Samuel 17:45-47 (NIV) David said to the Philistine, "You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. 46 This day the LORD will hand you over to me, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head. Today I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds of the air and the beasts of the earth, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. 47 All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves; for the battle is the LORD's, and he will give all of you into our hands."

What did David have to say to and about Goliath personally?

* You’re coming to fight with sword, spear, javelin
* I come in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel
* the very God you have defiled, today the Lord will hand you over to me
* I will strike you down, cut off your head, you will be left for the birds, for the beasts

What did David have to say about the end results for other people?

* everyone will know that there is a God in Israel
* all will know that it’s not by sword or spear that Jehovah saves
* the battle belongs to Jehovah, the God Who Is
* He will give you and your army into our hands

What would David have to say about the end results of the battles with **our** “giants” when we depend on God?

* everyone will know that God has given the victory
* all will see that it is not by money or by human skill that the battle has been won
* the battle for people of faith belongs to God

If we truly believed that our battles are the Lord's, how should we react differently to difficult circumstances?

* not cower in fear, declare our trust in God
* enumerate what God has done for us
* focus on God's power, not our inadequacies
* pray about it first, not look for human resources

Consider the fact that the "Goliaths" don't go down in a five minute battle, sometimes they hang around?

* God is just as powerful
* His plan may not be the same for you as for David

Lecture

* He **can and will** give victory – His resources are sufficient
* Keep focusing on Him long term
* Some situations are long term … we need God's power to endure through them
* Ultimately the **world will know** that your God is victorious in all situations

Use the last page as a handout so your learners can take home the application points of this week’s lesson.



Application

Remember.

* Think back to the times in your life when you faced adversity and hardships.
* Did your response reveal weak or strong faith?
* Did your actions reflect God’s Word?
* Trust God to keep His word as you pray and ask God for greater faith in adversity.

Review.

* How did God respond when you showed strong faith?
* Remember how wonderful it felt for God to act on behalf of your faith?
* Don’t hesitate to continue to trust God as your faith grows.
* Journal the victories God has given you.

Relationship.

* Your relationship with God will mature along with your faith.
* Teach others to strengthen their relationship with God through Scripture, prayer, and personal experience.
* Spend time mentoring someone who is working on his or her faith journey

Crossword

Words and Clues taken from 1 Samuel 17:3-8, 32 – 37, 45 – 47 (NIV)

You and me … who can finish first?



Giant assistance is available at <https://tinyurl.com/z6cdstshv> Also other Fun Family Activities.