

Week of November 1, 2009

Lessons for the Leader

Reflect on your life for a few moments. What are some of the most challenging times you faced? How did you deal with those challenges? In what ways did you see God glorified through them? How did you learn to trust God through these times?

- Read 1 Samuel 17:1-11. Imagine the size of Goliath and the daily taunting he delivered to the Israelites. What "giants" do you face? How do they taunt you?
- Read 1 Samuel 17:12-24. Based on what you know about the life of David, how well do you think David was prepared to fight Goliath? What experiences in life prepare you to fight your "giants"?
- Read 1 Samuel 17:25-40. How did David's brothers respond to his desire to fight Goliath? How did Saul respond? What type of encouragement do you need to face your "giants"? How does the opinion of people around you impact your decisions?
- Read 1 Samuel 17:41-50. How did David's trust in God make a difference in the outcome of the battle? What do you think David's brothers, Saul, and the other people learned about God? When you overcome your "giants," who gets the credit? How do people see God working in your life? David showed confidence in the power of the Almighty God. What type of confidence do you have as you deal with day-to-day issues? Do you trust God to help you? Do people around you know you trust God?

This week pray that you will demonstrate trust in Almighty God. Pray for the children in your ministry that they will learn to trust God in every type of situation.

What do these symbols mean?

- ➔ **Application Activities Format:** Follow the numbers with arrows for a 30-minute, large group plus 20-minute Application Activities format.
- 1 Follow all the numbers for a 45- to 60-minute large group only format.



Powerful Courage

Focus Passage: 1 Samuel 17:1-50

Key Bible Verse: Isaiah 41:10

Life Application

God helps people who trust Him.

Level of Biblical Learning (God)

God is almighty.

Session at a Glance

Introduction to Worship (6 to 8 minutes)

Welcome the Children

Decorate the Letters of *Trust*

Worship (30 minutes/45 minutes)

Call to Worship

Sing "Almighty God"

Sing "I Just Love Worshipping You"/

Receive Offering

Pray

Define *Trust*/List Things People Trust

Introduce Bible Story

Tell Bible Story

Apply Life Application/Key Bible Verse

Use Worship Guides

Pray

Show "Jack Spade" Video #2

Sing "Our God Reigns"

Sing "Holy, Holy, Holy"

Application Activities (20 minutes)

Wrap-Up (10 minutes)

Introduction to Worship

1 → Welcome the Children

2 → Decorate the Letters of *Trust*

Pull It Together

5 sheets of poster board, markers, various craft supplies, scissors, glue, so forth

- Cut the letters *TRUST* from the poster board (make as large as possible).
- Place craft supplies on a table.
- Place letters around the area.

- Guide children to letters.
- Direct the children to decorate the letters.
- Display the letters.
- Invite the children to state definitions of the word *trust*.
- Transition: "Today we will discover why it is important to trust God."

Worship

3 → Call to Worship (3 minutes)

- Select volunteers to read aloud Psalm 9:10; 20:7; 22:4; 31:14; and 37:5.

4 Sing "Almighty God" (DVD, 3 minutes)

5 → Sing "I Just Love Worshiping You" (DVD, 3 minutes)/Receive Offering

6 → Pray (1 minute)

- Say: "Let's worship God by praising Him for being the Almighty One!"
- Lead the children in a prayer of praise.

7 → Define *Trust*/List Things People Trust (4 minutes)

Pull It Together

Tear sheet, markers

- Attach the tear sheet to the focal wall.

- Call attention to the letters of *trust* (Introduction to Worship).
- Recall the children's definitions of trust.
- State: "*Trust* is believing in the character, strength, or truth of someone or something."
- Continue: "Let's make a list of things people trust."

Powerful Courage

- Invite the children to state things people trust. Record the items on the tear sheet.
- Conclude: "There are many things people trust. Why do people trust in God? Let's discover how trusting in God made a difference in the life of David."

8 → Introduce Bible Story (2 minutes)

- Say: "Through many events in his life David learned to trust God. The events David was about to face would put his trust to a test like no other. Listen carefully to how David trusted God."
- Lead the children to locate 1 Samuel 17 in their Bibles.

9 → Tell Bible Story (7 minutes)

Pull It Together

Print "David Pictures" (CD). Display as directed.

- Open your Bible to 1 Samuel 17.
- Tell the story in your own words, using lots of emotions and tonal expressions.

David and Goliath

Based on 1 Samuel 17:1-50

High on a hillside the Philistine army gathered for battle (*add Philistine army 1*). Across the valley of Elah [EE-luh], King Saul and the men of Israel lined up in battle formation (*add Israelite army 2*).

The champion, Goliath, led the battle for the Philistines (*add Goliath*). Goliath stood 9 feet 9 inches tall and wore a helmet and armor of bronze that weighed 125 pounds. The point of his spear weighed 15 pounds! Goliath was tall, strong, scary, and mean! He did not like the Israelites. Each day Goliath walked out and shouted a challenge toward the Israelite army.

Each day the Israelites saw Goliath and listened to his threats. The Israelites were terrified.

One day, David came to the campsite to bring food to his brothers who were soldiers in Israel's army (*add David*). David heard Goliath's threats, but David was not afraid. David asked his brothers to explain why they were so afraid. They should have been angry with Goliath because he

showed no respect for the power of God! David boldly offered to fight Goliath.

David's brothers and King Saul were against this. David told Saul, God had already helped him fight lions and bears as he cared for his sheep. David knew God would help him fight Goliath.

(Add armor to David) King Saul told David to wear his armor. Saul placed a bronze helmet on David's head. The armor was so big David could not walk *(remove armor)*. He took the armor off, picked up his staff and five smooth stones and walked toward Goliath *(add sling/stones)*.

Goliath was angry because David was young. Goliath called David names and threatened him. He believed beating David would be easy. David knew God was with him and boldly told Goliath he was fighting in God's name.

David said this would be the day God would put an end to Goliath. David put one stone in the sling, slung it, and hit Goliath in the forehead. Goliath fell to the ground *(turn Goliath on his side)*. David killed Goliath. David put His trust in God and God helped him defeat Goliath!

10 → Apply Life Application/Key Bible Verse (5 minutes)

Pull It Together

Print and display "David" Teaching Picture (CD).

Teacher Tip

Be careful to not lead the children to believe that everything will be as they desire it to be. Children can always trust God, but that does not mean things will turn out the way children desire.

- Call attention to the teaching picture.
- State: "David was just a normal person. However, David had put his trust in God to protect him. We can learn from David that God will help each one of us when we trust in Him."
- Ask: "Do you think God helps people who trust Him? Why?"
- Invite the children to respond.
- Continue: "We can know when we put our trust in Him, God will help us. Let's read Isaiah 41:10."
- Direct the children to locate Isaiah 41:10.
- Select volunteers to read aloud the verse.

- Discuss the verse.
- Recall the list of things people trust.
- Ask: "How do you think these things will help people? How do they compare to putting your trust in God?"
- Guide the children to understand that God wants them to put their trust in Him.

11 → Use Worship Guides (7 minutes)

Pull It Together

Worship Guides, pencils, scissors, glue sticks

Teacher Tip

Be prepared to share about a time in your life when you trusted God, and the outcome.

- Distribute Worship Guides, pencils, scissors, and glue sticks.
- Lead the children to complete "Where's Your Trust?"
- Direct the children to discuss their answers with friends.
- Call on volunteers to tell why trusting God is always best.
- Lead children to complete "He Can Help Me."

12 → Pray (2 minutes)

- Guide children to complete the statement, "God, help me put my trust in You. I need Your help most when..."

13 → Show "Jack Spade" Video #2 (DVD, 8 minutes)

- Show video.
- Ask: "What happened when Ben decided to do things as he wanted instead of following directions?"
- Continue: "How did Ben show he trusted Captain Spade? Why is it difficult to trust people? What about God?"
- Conclude: "Captain Spade said, 'It takes a lot of courage to put your trust in someone else's hands.' Do you agree with this statement? Why or why not?"

14 → Sing "Our God Reigns" (DVD, 3 minutes)

15 Sing "Holy, Holy, Holy" (DVD, 3 minutes)

16 → Transition to Application Activities or Wrap-Up

Wrap-Up

(Large Group Only Format)

17 Play Review Game (6 minutes)

Pull It Together

*Giant Game Floor Mat**, beanbag, construction paper, marker

- Write point values on the sheets of construction paper.
 - Place the points in the pockets of the mat.
 - Place the mat on the floor.
- Say: "David had great aim. God guided the stone to hit Goliath at just the right point. Let's test your abilities to land on the right spot."
 - Call attention to the mat.
 - Continue: "Located in the mat are different point values. I'll ask your team a question and then one person from your team will toss the beanbag on the mat. You will receive the number of points on the space where the beanbag lands."
 - Group the children into teams.
 - Alternate asking questions, allow the children to toss the beanbags, and award points.
 - Define *trust*. (*believing in the character, strength, or truth of someone or something*)
 - Name three things in which people trust. (*Answers will vary.*)
 - What was the name of the Philistine warrior who daily taunted the Israelites? (*Goliath*)
 - How tall was Goliath? (*9 feet 9 inches*)
 - Name the Israelite who volunteered to fight Goliath. (*David*)
 - What did Saul give to David? (*his armor*)
 - What weapons did David use to fight Saul? (*a sling and 5 stones*)
 - Why should we trust God? (*Answers will vary.*)
 - In what ways do we know we can trust God? (*Answers will vary.*)
 - Name a result of trusting God. (*Answers will vary.*)
 - Remind the children that David's success in defeating Goliath was because he placed his trust in God, not in armor, swords, or his own power.

18 Pray (1 minute)

19 Sing "I'm Gonna Bless" (DVD, 3 minutes)

Wrap-Up

(Application Activities Format)

17 → Review Application Activities (5 minutes)

- Invite the children to share their Application Activity experiences.
 - Arts and Crafts—Tic-Tac-Toe Boards
 - Dramatic Play—Wooden Spoons Puppets
 - Games—"Stone" Tossing
 - Exploration and Discovery—Bible-times Weapons

18 → Pray (1 minute)

19 → Sing "I'm Gonna Bless" (DVD, 3 minutes)

* *Giant Game Floor Mat* (001114564) may be ordered through LifeWay Christian Resources Customer Service Center at 1.800.458.2772 or online at www.lifeway.com.