



GOD'S CREATURES TELL THE STORY ♦ BOOK ONE

David and Goliath

A Packet for Teachers, Parents, and Leaders

FREE ♦ PHOTOCOPY FREELY FOR YOUR CLASS

Everything here is drawn from the back of the book and gathered into one place: five lesson plans, discussion questions for two age groups, a detective hunt, crafts, the science behind the sling, and a reproducible quiz with an answer key.

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God's Creatures Tell the Story ♦ Don D. Brown

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Three Ways Through the Book

This packet assumes you have the book. Everything here points back to chapters in *David and Goliath*, where Penny, Professor Hoot, and Dominic report the story as it happens. Pick the track that fits your setting — or borrow from all three.

For Family Devotions

1. Read two or three chapters per sitting; the book runs twelve chapters.
2. Use the discussion questions at the age level that fits your children (page 4).
3. Try the Bible Detective hunt on page 5 as a between-sessions challenge.
4. Memorize 1 Samuel 16:7 together — the Lord looks at the heart.
5. Close with Dominic's prayer on page 6.

For Sunday School Classes

1. Open with the setting — page 8 explains champion warfare, which is what makes the standoff make sense.
2. Focus on one movement per lesson rather than racing the whole book.
3. Use a map; the Valley of Elah can still be visited today, and students find that startling.
4. Include a hands-on activity from page 7.
5. Close by naming one “giant” each student is facing this week.

For Homeschool Curriculum

1. Integrate with ancient history — David lived roughly 1040 to 970 BC.
2. Add the geography of ancient Israel, tracing Bethlehem to the Valley of Elah.
3. Use the sling as a physics lesson: rotational energy becoming linear motion (page 8).
4. Practice narrative writing — have students file their own report as a fourth member of the news team.
5. Study the Psalms attributed to David and connect them to events in his life.

David became king of Judah at thirty, ruled seven years from Hebron, then reigned thirty-three more from Jerusalem.

Forty years in all — and it began in a valley, with five stones.

A note on pacing: twelve chapters divide into a six-week unit at two chapters per session, or five sessions using the lesson plans on the next page.

Five Sessions

Five sessions, each built on one key verse. The chapter column tells you what to read beforehand. These follow the arc of the book from the anointing to the hero's welcome.

Lesson 1: God Looks at the Heart

Key verse: 1 Samuel 16:7 ♦ Read: Chapters 1–3

Main point. People judge by appearance; God sees what is inside.

Activity. Have each student write two lists — what people see about them, and what God sees.

Lesson 2: Courage Is Practiced Before It Is Needed

Key verse: 1 Samuel 17:37 ♦ Read: Chapter 4

Main point. David faced the lion and the bear long before he faced Goliath.

Activity. Name one small brave thing to do this week. Report back next session.

Lesson 3: Wear Your Own Armor

Key verse: 1 Samuel 17:39 ♦ Read: Chapters 5–7

Main point. David could not fight in Saul's armor. God uses who you actually are.

Activity. List the gifts each student already has — then discuss how God might use them.

Lesson 4: The Battle Is the Lord's

Key verse: 1 Samuel 17:47 ♦ Read: Chapters 8–9

Main point. Preparation and trust work together — five stones and an unshakable faith.

Activity. Paint smooth stones with the words *Faith*, *Courage*, and *Trust*.

Lesson 5: Humble in Victory

Key verse: Psalm 115:1 ♦ Read: Chapters 10–12

Main point. David never forgot who actually won that battle.

Activity. Discuss how to accept praise while giving God the credit.

Each lesson runs comfortably in thirty to forty-five minutes. If you have an hour, add a craft from page 7 or the detective hunt on page 5.

Two Age Levels

Five questions at each level. The younger set stays close to the story; the older set moves from the text into the student's own life. There are no wrong answers to the personal questions.

For Ages 7 to 9

1. How did David show courage when he faced the lion? How did that prepare him for Goliath?
2. Why did David choose five stones instead of just one?
3. How did the other soldiers feel when they saw Goliath? How did David feel?
4. What made David different from the other soldiers?
5. If you were one of the reporters, what would you have written about David?

For Ages 10 to 12

1. David told Goliath he came “in the name of the Lord.” What did he mean?
2. Why did King Saul begin to feel jealous of David after the victory?
3. How did David's years as a shepherd prepare him for that moment?
4. What “giants” do people face today? How can David's example help?
5. How did David stay humble after becoming famous? Why does humility matter?

*The typical man in David's time stood about five foot five.
Goliath was nearly twice that.*

IF THE CONVERSATION STALLS

- Ask which reporter each student would rather be — Penny, Hoot, or Dominic — and why.
- Ask what Goliath was thinking when he saw who had come out to meet him.
- Ask why the soldiers stood still for forty days.

Penny's Bible Detective

Penny appears with a magnifying glass. "Hello, junior detectives! Time to search for clues. Put on your thinking caps — every answer is hiding in the book." — Photocopy this page for your class.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. How many brothers did David have in total?

Hint: Chapter 3 _____

2. What musical instrument did David play while tending his sheep?

Hint: Chapter 3 _____

3. What animal did David fight to protect his sheep before facing Goliath?

Hint: Chapter 4 _____

4. How many stones did David collect from the stream?

Hint: Chapter 8 _____

5. What did David say was the real reason he would win — his strength, his skill with the sling, or something else?

Hint: Chapter 10 _____

6. What unusual feature did the soldiers say one of Goliath's relatives had?

Hint: Chapter 6 _____

7. After the victory, what item belonging to Goliath did David keep?

Hint: Chapter 11 _____

Penny: "Great detective work! Remembering these details helps the whole story hold together."

Faith in Action

Dominic appears, looking thoughtful. “This story isn’t only about something that happened long ago. It can help us today. Let’s think about it.”

Think About It

1. David faced a giant everyone else was afraid of. What feels giant-sized in your life right now? How might God help you face it?
2. David believed God would help him. Think of a time you needed to be brave. Did you remember to ask God for help? What happened?
3. Everyone was surprised that a young shepherd could defeat a mighty warrior. Has God ever used you to do something important, even though you are young? Have you seen God use someone unexpected?
4. David stayed humble after becoming a hero. Why is it important not to grow proud when we succeed? How do we remember to give God the credit?

A Prayer for Facing Giants

*Dear God, sometimes I face problems that seem as big as Goliath. Help me to be brave like David, and to remember that with Your help I can face any challenge. Thank You for being with me and fighting my battles. **Help me to trust You when I am afraid. Amen.***

Lessons from the Valley

David’s courage teaches that no problem is too big for God. Choosing five smooth stones was preparation and trust working together — we can prepare wisely while placing our ultimate confidence in the Lord.

His humility in victory showed that all success comes from God. Even as a national hero, David never forgot who really won that battle.

The heart of it is this: a heart like David’s repents quickly when wrong, seeks God’s will above all, and trusts God’s promises when circumstances look impossible. Every time we face our own giants — fear, temptation, hard circumstances — the same God who delivered David is ready to help.

Activities and Crafts

Ordinary household and classroom supplies throughout. Times are rough; children stretch a craft to fill whatever time you give them.

Make a Reporter's Notebook

Small notebook, green construction paper, markers, glue. Build a notebook like Penny's, then send students out to record what they observe — at recess, at home, on the way to church.

Smooth Stone Craft

Small smooth stones, paint, brushes. Paint one word on each stone — *Faith, Courage, Trust* — as a reminder of what David carried into the valley. Five stones per student, if you have them.

Map of David's Journey

Trace his path from Bethlehem to the Valley of Elah and label the landmarks. Worth mentioning: the valley is still there, and people visit it.

The Heavenly Herald Front Page

Have each student report the victory as a newspaper front page — headline, lead paragraph, an eyewitness quote, and a drawing. Assign three students the three reporters' perspectives and compare what each one noticed.

The Sling Game

Soft foam balls, a sock. A safe indoor target game using a homemade sling. Pairs well with the physics on page 8 — students feel the force build before they release.

Centripetal Force Demonstration

A balled-up sock, two feet of string. Adult supervision. Swing it overhead and feel the pull grow as it speeds up. That is the force David was building.

The Science and the Customs

Background you can hand to a curious student — or keep in your back pocket for the question you did not see coming.

The physics of the sling

- A sling is not a toy. It was a serious weapon in ancient armies.
- It converts arm rotation into speed: spin builds rotational energy, and release turns it into straight-line motion.
- A skilled slinger could throw a stone near sixty miles an hour — more force than a modern fastball.
- Shepherds spent months alone with their flocks, which gave them time to get very good at it.

Why nobody would fight him

- Armies sometimes settled a conflict by sending one champion each, to spare a full battle.
- Whichever champion won, his whole army was counted the victor.
- That is why the Israelites were terrified: the fate of the nation rode on a single fight.

The weight of armor

- Goliath's coat of mail weighed roughly 125 pounds.
- Important warriors had armor-bearers to carry their equipment; Goliath had a shield-bearer walking ahead of him.
- This is why David turned down Saul's armor — it was heavy, and he had never trained to move in it.

Where David fits in history

- Born in Bethlehem around 1040 BC.
- He faced Goliath as a young man, probably still in his teens.
- King of Judah at thirty; seven years in Hebron, then thirty-three over all Israel from Jerusalem.
- About forty years of reign in all, roughly 1010 to 970 BC.
- His son Solomon built the Temple that David had planned.

Why he still matters

- God made an eternal covenant with him.
- He established Jerusalem as Israel's capital.
- He wrote many of the Psalms still read today.
- Jesus is called the Son of David and the heir to his throne.

A note on Goliath's size

- The Bible gives his height as six cubits and a span — roughly nine to ten feet.
- Some scholars suggest a medical condition called acromegaly, which causes excessive growth and can affect vision.
- That would explain both his height and why a shield-bearer walked in front of him.

Professor Hoot's Quiz

Professor Hoot steps up to the podium with a stack of papers. "Greetings, young scholars. Choose the best answer for each question." Dominic adds: "And no peeking!" — Photocopy this page for your class.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Where was David from?

- a) Jerusalem b) Bethlehem c) Egypt

2. What was David doing when his father sent him to his brothers?

- a) Training to be a soldier b) Working in the fields c) Tending sheep

3. How many stones did David collect from the stream?

- a) Three b) Five c) Ten

4. How tall was Goliath, according to the Bible?

- a) Six cubits and a span (9–10 ft) b) Four cubits (about 6 ft) c) Eight cubits (about 12 ft)

5. What weapon did David use to defeat Goliath?

- a) A sword b) A spear c) A sling

6. What did King Saul offer to whoever defeated Goliath?

- a) Gold and silver b) His daughter and tax exemption c) A castle and land

7. Who was David's father?

- a) Samuel b) Saul c) Jesse

8. How many days had Goliath been challenging the Israelites?

- a) 7 days b) 40 days c) 100 days

9. What did David say gave him confidence he could win?

- a) Fighting lions and bears b) His special armor c) His height

10. What did Jonathan give David after the victory?

- a) His royal robe and weapons b) A bag of gold c) A new sling

Answer Keys and Scoring

Professor Hoot's Quiz — Answer Key

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 1. b) Bethlehem | 2. c) Tending sheep |
| 3. b) Five | 4. a) Six cubits and a span |
| 5. c) A sling | 6. b) His daughter in marriage and tax exemption |
| 7. c) Jesse | 8. b) 40 days |
| 9. a) Fighting lions and bears | 10. a) His royal robe and weapons |

8–10 correct — Bible Champion.

5–7 correct — Good Scholar.

1–4 correct — Keep reading the story and try again.

Bible Detective — Answer Key

- Seven brothers in all — David was the youngest of eight sons.
- The harp, which he played while tending the flock.
- A lion — and a bear as well.
- Five smooth stones.
- Not his strength and not his sling. He said the battle belonged to the Lord.
- Six fingers on each hand and six toes on each foot.
- Goliath's sword.

Answers one through four and six sit plainly in the chapters listed on the student page. Number five is the one worth lingering on — it is the point of the whole book.

Where to Go Next

This packet covers *David and Goliath*. Two companion sheets work across the whole series and are free to download and photocopy: **The Six Sacred Rules of Divine Reporting**, a one-page classroom poster, and **Meet the Divine News Team**, a reader's guide to Penny, Professor Hoot, Dominic, and Gabriel. A full packet for *Daniel in the Lions' Den* is available as well.

All of them are at **dondbrownbooks.com**, along with the rest of the series.

If you use this packet with a class or a family, I would be glad to hear how it went. — Don D. Brown