

At that time, the Israelites were at war with the Philistines. The Philistines had a great army, and a giant warrior named Goliath. Goliath was over nine feet tall and wore heavy bronze armor. Every day, Goliath would come into the valley between the two armies and challenge the Israelites: "Choose a man to fight me. If he kills me, we will be your servants. But if I kill him, you will be our servants." The Israelites were terrified of Goliath, and no one dared to fight him.

One day, Jesse sent his youngest son David to bring food to his brothers in the army and check on their well-being. When David arrived at the camp, he heard Goliath mocking and challenging the Israelites. David was outraged and asked the soldiers, "Who is this huge Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?"

The soldiers told David that King Saul had promised great riches and his daughter in marriage to the man who would defeat Goliath. David decided to fight Goliath and was brought before King Saul.

Saul was skeptical and said, "You are only a boy, and he has been a warrior from his youth." But David told Saul how he had fought off lions and bears that attacked his sheep. "The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine," David said.

Saul gave David his own armor, but it was too big and heavy for him. David took it off and instead took his shepherd's

staff, five smooth stones from a stream, and his sling. With these simple weapons, he went out to face Goliath.

When Goliath saw David, he laughed and mocked him: "Am I a dog, that you come at me with sticks?" But David replied, "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. Today the Lord will deliver you into my hands, and I'll strike you down."

David took a stone, put it in his sling, and slung it with all his might. The stone hit Goliath right in the forehead, and the giant fell face down to the ground. David ran over, took Goliath's sword, and killed him. When the Philistines saw that their mighty warrior was dead, they fled in panic. The Israelites cheered and chased after the fleeing Philistines.

David became a hero and later the king of Israel. This story shows us that with courage and faith in God, even the greatest challenges can be overcome. David, the young shepherd boy, defeated the giant warrior Goliath because he trusted in God and was brave.

Source: Samuel 17 - The story of David and Goliath is found in the Old Testament of the Bible, in the book of 1 Samuel, Chapter 17

St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor Ingrid Doerschel

Phone (604) 566-2102

E-mail: pastor@stmarkschurch.ca

Office Phone (604) 876-4312

E-mail: office@stmarkschurch.ca

1573 E. 18th Avenue, Vancouver,
BC V5N 2H4

www.stmarkschurch.ca

Church for kids online: please find all stories here:



Church for Kids – David and Goliath



Once upon a time, there was a young shepherd named David. David was the youngest of eight sons of Jesse, a man from Bethlehem. While his older brothers served in King Saul's army, David stayed at home to take care of his family's sheep. David was a brave and godly young man who often wrote songs and psalms to praise God.