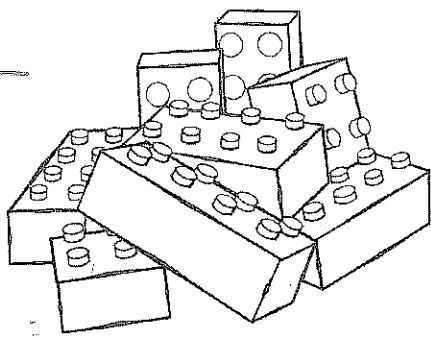


*Erin*



# David and Goliath

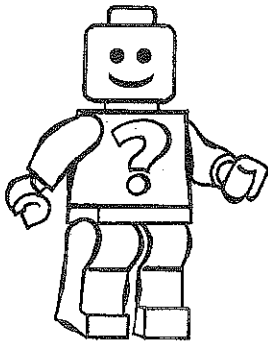
1 Samuel 17:1-58

## Welcome the Group

### Lay the Foundation

- *Where is this story found in the Bible?*  
Old Testament
- *What is its place in the Bible story?*  
after Samuel anointed David as the next king; before David and Jonathan became friends
- *Who is the author?*  
unknown
- *Who are the main characters?*  
David, Goliath, Philistine army, Israelites army, King Saul, David's Brothers, and God
- *Where in the biblical world did it happen?*  
Sokoh, Judah
- *Where is this in today's world?*  
Valley of Elah, near the West Bank

Find the full description of *Lay the Foundation* on page 15.



### Did you know?

- ✓ The Bible describes Goliath as being six cubits high. By modern measurements that would make him 9' tall. A cubit is roughly 18" long. It was measured in ancient times by the length of one's arm from finger tip to top of the forearm.
- ✓ David and Goliath fought to decide who would be able to live in the land promised by God.
- ✓ Battles were fought by sending out the best soldier from each army.

### Pray

*God of power and mercy, thank you for your care and protection. Make us strong in your love and mighty in your will. Help us to remember that everyone can do something wonderful in your name. Amen.*

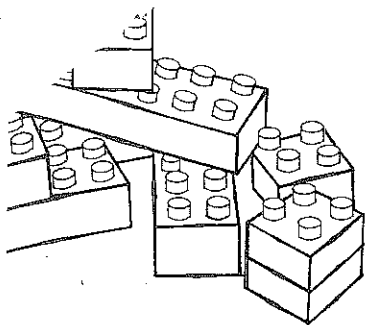
Suggested prayer methods are outlined on page 15.

### Share the Story

Suggestions for storytelling are detailed on page 16.

### Respond to the Story

Invite each member of the group to use bricks and figures to respond to the story. This can be done individually or in small groups. Suggestions for how to support this form of theological reflection can be found on page 16.



### Ask Building Questions

- I wonder why there were other people living in the land promised to the Israelites?
- I wonder what made God choose David to be the leader?
- I wonder if you have ever felt afraid of someone different than you?
- I wonder if you have ever been a leader?
- I wonder if you have been so angry with someone that you wanted to fight?
- I wonder what Goliath sounded like when he spoke?
- I wonder if the Philistines were afraid of him too?
- I wonder if you can think of a time when you had to be very brave?
- I wonder if anyone has ever thought you were too small or too young to do something?
- I wonder if you have ever known for certain that God would protect you?
- I wonder if there is ever a good reason to fight?
- I wonder what important things you could do for God?

### Suggest Blueprints (if needed)

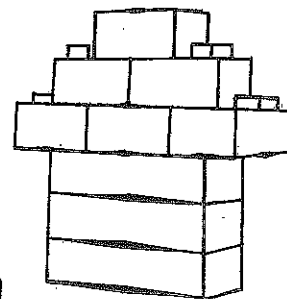
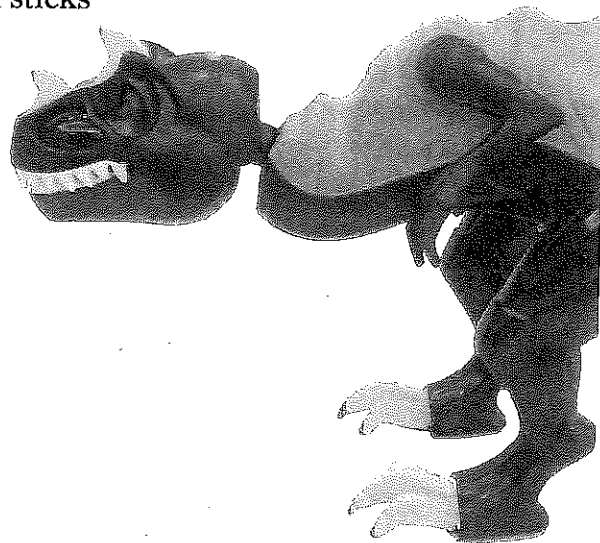
- David
- Goliath
- Philistine army
- Israelite army
- Saul
- armor
- David's brothers
- Jesse
- flock of sheep
- slingshot and rock

### Share Responses to the Story

Encourage each group member to share the creations they have made in response to the story. More details about sharing can be found on page 17.

### Share a Snack

- popcorn "rocks"
- beef jerky
- cheese
- loaves of bread
- marshmallow "sheep"
- pretzel sticks



### Continue the Story

One way to deepen the learning experience and create a link between group learning and faith formation in the home is to have builders show their creations to the adults who pick them up after class.

For additional study and conversation at home, consider different ways to share the Bible verses as well as some of the *Building Questions*. Possible methods of communication are texts, social media, e-blasts, website posts, or take-home sheets.

## Share the Story

- Introduce the story by answering some or all of the following questions, as appropriate. Each lesson includes brief answers to most or all of these questions; you are always free to supplement this information from your own knowledge and research:
  - Where is this story found in the Bible?
  - What other stories can be found before and after this story?
  - Who wrote this story?
  - When did this story take place?
  - When was the story written?
  - Whom are we going to “meet” in this story?
  - Where did this story take place?
  - Where is this location in today’s world?
- Share the story by reading or retelling it.
- Show different images of the story to help spark imagination (art books, original LEGO® constructions, online image sites, etc.).

## Respond to the Story

### Ask Building Questions

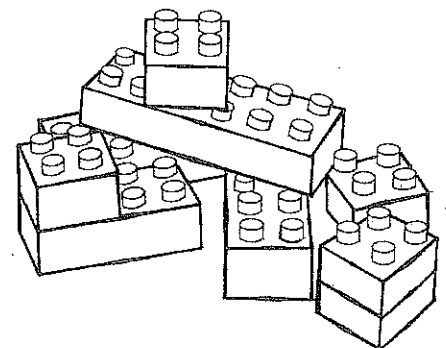
- Allow time for *Building Questions*, comments, and insights. We provide a robust list of questions for each lesson. This time of “wondering” typically serves as the most sacred part of the gathering; try not to rush through the reflections. At this point the interior life of the group often emerges in remarkable ways. This is where the bulk of the theological reflection can be heard and witnessed.
- The list of *Building Questions* is intentionally longer than needed for any given session so that the

lessons can be repeated with the same group over time. This also allows for the leader to pick and choose which question fits best within the context.

- Set the expectation that something from the story must be constructed before any other creations can be made.
- Be available to answer questions, review the story, or help “stuck” children.

### Suggest Blueprints

- *Building Faith Brick by Brick* is intended to be an open-ended theological reflection using LEGO® bricks. The need to specifically script a response should be avoided. However, if a child is having a difficult time focusing in on a response to the story, a few suggested idea starters have been offered, called *Blueprints*. The suggestions should only be introduced as needed. Reading *Blueprints* to the whole group could hinder the creative process, so keep them for “as needed” moments.
- Allow the suggested *Blueprints* to be simple words or concepts to spark ideas within the imagination of the child.



Building Faith Brick by Brick