



*MT. LEBANON SUMMER CAMP 2012*

## **Get in the Game**

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## Camp Gap Bible Study Introduction

The theme for this year at Camp Gap is **Get in the Game**

### Bible Study Sessions:

Session 1: **But I'm Just a Kid.**

This lesson introduces the camp theme for the week and looks at four children in the Bible that are “in the game.” What can we learn from them?

Session 2: **Do You Hear Me Now?**

This session presents the story of Samuel listening to God as a child. This lesson will ask the students to examine who they are listening to each day.

Session 3: **It's a Heart Thing.**

Students will realize that God does not care about our outward appearance like he cares about our heart. This lesson will help students understand that God really knows them.

Session 4: **Play to Win!**

When we are “in the game,” God is with us and we can trust him. This session takes a different look at David and Goliath.

### Preparation

1. Prepare a colorful poster for your Bible Study area. Title the poster “Get in the Game.” See Item 1-a, you may copy or enlarge this for use as your poster. Each Bible Study session will include a lesson title page and other visuals that you can add to the poster and Bible study area daily.
2. Each session lists supplies that you will need to gather before camp. These items include making copies of visuals and activities for the lessons. Some items will be more effective if copied on card stock or colored paper. If your church does not have adequate copiers, please contact the Mt. Lebanon Office immediately at 972-291-7156 for help. Prepare early.
3. Quiet time pages are available that encourage individual learning each day as well as time alone with God.
4. The Bible Study material will use the NIV translation of the Bible. It is suggested that the Bible study teacher use the NIV translation.

## Get in the Game

### Session 1

# But I'm Just a Kid

#### **Purpose:**

- To encourage children to serve God where they are and to endeavor to please God with their actions.
- To provide examples of children that served God.

#### **Scripture used:**

- 2 Kings 5:1-5, 22:1-2, 23:24-25
- John 6:5-11
- 2 Timothy 1:1-2, 3:14-15
- 1 Timothy 4:12

#### **Memory Verse:**

- 1 Timothy 4:12, "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity."

#### **Supplies Needed:**

- Copy of title poster "Get in the Game," see item 1a
- Copy of lesson title page, "But I'm Just a Kid," item 1b
- Index card/child
- Pen or pencil/child
- Tape, fun tack or something to attach pages to the wall

#### **Teacher Preparation for Bible Study**

- Prepare teaching aids.
- Study the background teaching passages.
- Read the lesson and be ready to present it in your own words so that children understand the main idea.

#### **Main idea:**

- Serve

God.

**Introduce the Bible Study:**

Welcome to Bible Study. As you know the camp theme this week is Get in the Game. Display the Get in the Game title poster, item 1a. What do you think, “Get in the game” means? Listen to the student’s ideas. How many of you play a team sport? You know that often when you play sports not everyone plays at the same time. If you play baseball or softball how many kids play at the same time? If you play football or soccer how many kids play? Basketball? If your team is playing but you are not playing you might be “in the dugout,” “on the bench” or “on the sidelines.” Maybe the coach does not always have you in the game. In fact, some of you may not even be on the team. You may be just sitting in the stands watching what is happening.

This week, our Bible lessons encourage us to be on God’s team and not be content with being on the sidelines or on the bench in our relationship with God. In the Christian life you need to be “in the game.” Being a Christian means you are living with God in control of your life. Being a Christian is not a spectator sport. If you think of God as your coach, He wants everyone that joins the team to be in the game.

**Transition to Bible Study:**

Today, we are going to look at some children in the Bible and what they did “in the game.” So often we think to do great things for God you have to study and read the Bible and memorize scripture and pray long prayers and be old. After all, it takes a long time to learn everything about God. Our lesson today is titled, “But, I’m just a kid.” Display lesson title page 1b. Do you ever say that?

Tell the students to listen to the following questions and answer them with the statement “no, but I’m just a kid.” There are some things that only adults do and kids just do not do them.

1. Do you have a driver’s license?
2. Did you vote in the last election?
3. Do you play professional sports?
4. Are you married?
5. Have you fought in a war?
6. Have you ever given something to someone in need?
7. Have you chosen to follow God?
8. Do you invite your friends to church?
9. Are you learning what the Bible says?
10. Have you told anyone about Jesus?

The first five the children should have no problem responding with no, but I’m just a kid. They should start complaining about that answer for the next five questions.

Some of you wanted to answer yes to some of these questions. Why?

**Teach the Bible Lesson:**

Just like you following God and telling others about Jesus there are children in the Bible that also were on God's team. Today we will look at some children that did not sit on the sidelines. Their stories are in the Bible because they were in the game—doing what God wanted them to do.

Divide into four groups and give each group one of the following scriptures references:

2 Kings 5:1-5, 14-15

2 Kings 22:1-2 and 23:24-25

John 6:5-11

2 Timothy 1:1-2 and 3:14-15.

Have the groups look up and read the scripture and be prepared to tell you who is mentioned in the story that is young and what they did. See the information below.

In 2 Kings 5:1-4, **Naaman's maid** (we do not even know her name) said that there was a prophet in Israel that could heal Naaman of leprosy. She could have kept her mouth shut because she was just a servant. Naaman did what the maid suggested and was healed and recognized God.

2 Kings 22:1-2 and 23:24-25, **Josiah** was eight years old when he became king. He got rid of idols and did what God's law said. He followed God with all his heart, soul and strength. His father was actually an evil king and Josiah could have chosen to follow in his ways.

John 6:5-11, **a boy** gave up his lunch of five loaves and two fish. Jesus used them to do a great miracle. There were twelve basketfuls of leftovers. He could have just eaten his own lunch.

2 Timothy 3:14-17, **Timothy's** mother and grandmother taught him about God when he was young. Paul wrote this letter to Timothy shortly before Paul's death. Timothy could have ignored what he was taught, but he did not and Paul referred to Timothy as his son. When the letter was written Timothy was a pastor.

### **Apply the Lesson:**

So what can we learn from these Bible kids? Some do not even have their name mentioned but God included them in the Bible. They were included to teach us something. Let us look at each story one more time and see if you can come up with something we could learn from that story.

Naaman's maid reminds us to **tell others about God** and what He can do. We might think no one will listen to us but Naaman listened to a young slave girl and was healed because of it. Also this girl must have had faith that God could heal Naaman or she would not have spoken up.

Josiah reminds us to **do what is right**. Josiah could have chosen to do evil like his father did. He could have encouraged the people to worship idols and ignore God, but Josiah destroyed idols and encouraged the people to turn to God. Make hard choices—choose God.

The boy who gave up lunch shows us to **give, share, and be generous**. We do not know much about this boy but we know he gave what he had to give. All of us can give something whether it is a material item, money or even our time to help someone else.

Timothy **learned more about God**. Paul said Timothy learned scripture since he was an infant. How important is it to you to know what the Bible says? Start learning now.

Tell others about God, do what is right, give, share, be generous, and learn more about God. Those are great things that we can learn from these young people in the Bible. These Bible young people could have stayed on the sidelines and we might never have heard about them. They chose not to be spectators but to serve God. They got in the game—and scored.

### **Closing:**

Challenge each child to come up with one thing they can do in their church or community that would please God. Maybe it is one of the things we talked about today or maybe it is something different. Give each child an index card and a pencil. Have them write down what they will do. Tell them to be specific. Do not just write down share; write down what you will share and when. For example: I will go through all my clothes and toys and give away those I don't need to someone that does need them. Or I will read my Bible everyday for at least ten minutes and see what God wants me to learn.

Give the students a few minutes to write their statements and then let some share their ideas out loud.

### **Memory Verse:**

First Timothy 4:12 is our camp verse. This verse reminds us that we need to do what is right. Young people can set a great example for everyone especially other young people. Have students open their Bibles to 1 Timothy 4:12. These are words Paul wrote to Timothy. Read the verse aloud. Make up actions to go with the verse or have the students make up the actions by assigning a different section of the verse to different groups and then putting all the actions together. Or you could have each group come up with their own way to act out the verse and then have them demonstrate it to the entire group.

### **Pray**

Pray for the students to have courage to serve God however He leads them. Thank God for the examples He gave us in the Bible.

### **Extra Challenge:**

Get in the game today! You wrote something on a card that you will do. Maybe that is something you can do today, maybe not, but every day we can do things to serve God to please God. Start today—do something that would make God smile. Let someone else go first. Refuse to talk bad about anyone. Stand up and praise God in worship. Sit down and talk to that person that is alone. Pick up someone else's trash. Pat a shepherd on the back. Say thank you to a staff member. Smile at everyone. Get in the game.

**Get in the Game**  
Session 2

## Do You Hear Me Now?

**Purpose:**

- To encourage students to listen, respond and serve God.
- To help children think about their relationship with God.

**Scripture used:**

- 1Samuel 1-3
- Romans 3:23
- 1 Kings 19:21
- 1Timothy 4:12

**Memory Verse:**

- 1 Timothy 4:12, “Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity.”

**Supplies Needed:**

- Lesson title page “Do You Hear Me Now?” item 2a
- Five copies of skit
- Candy bar and other candy or some other prize
- Two lunch bags
- An undesirable prize
- Blindfold
- Tape, fun tack or something to attach pages to the wall

**Teacher Preparation for Bible Study**

- Prepare teaching aids.
- Study the background teaching passages.
- Review the plan of salvation.
- Read the lesson and be ready to present it in your own words so that children understand the main idea and the plan of salvation.
- Read 1Samuel 1-3 for background information.

**Main Idea:**

- Listen to God.

**Introduce the Bible Study:**

To start our Bible study we are going to play a game. Show the students a big candy bar or other prize they might win. One person will get a chance to win this prize and all they will have to do is listen to and follow directions. Choose one person to be it. Have this person leave the room for a few minutes. An adult helper should blindfold the chosen person and make sure they do not hear the rest of the directions.

Place the candy bar in a lunch bag and hide it in the room. Hide another bag with a rock or something of no use in it. Now divide the students into two groups. Put three-fourths of the students in group one and one-fourth of the students in group two. Group one's job is to give the wrong directions as to how to find the candy. They should lead the person to the wrong bag. Group two should give the directions to the candy bag. No one should tell the chosen person not to listen to someone or that some are giving the wrong directions. Also, no one should touch the chosen person. You might want to promise a treat to the group that gets the person to their sack.

Bring the blindfolded person back into the room. Tell them that you have hidden the candy and the other kids will tell them how to find it. They will have two minutes to find the bag once you start. Make sure they understand then begin the game. After time has expired award prizes as needed.

**Transition to Bible Study:**

Discuss the game you just played. Was it easy to find the candy bar? No, because not many people were giving good directions. Lots of people were giving the wrong directions. It was confusing.

You know when you play a sport there are often people in the stands yelling for different teams. Some of them are telling you the right thing but there are so many voices it is hard to hear what anyone is saying. Really the only voice you should be listening to when you are in the game is the coach's voice. You need to listen to the coach. That is his job to help you know what to do. So, somehow you have to figure out how to get rid of all the distractions and focus on that one voice.

We need to think of God as our coach and focus on Him. It is what He tells us and what He wants us to do that is important.

**Teach the Bible Lesson:**

Today's Bible story is about the boy Samuel. What do you know about Samuel? If the students do not know about Samuel tell them a little about him. Use 1 Samuel 1-2 to tell about Samuel's birth. Samuel's parents loved God. Samuel's mother had prayed for a son before Samuel was born. She had promised that if God gave her a son she would give that son back to God to serve Him throughout the son's entire life. Samuel was born and while he was still young his mother, Hannah took him to the temple and Samuel began to live and work there. While he was young Samuel begins to serve God—even before he really knew God. And then one night something wonderful happened to Samuel.

Today's story is from 1 Samuel 3. Instead of reading those verses we will do a skit to demonstrate what happened to Samuel. Select students to be a narrator, Hannah, Samuel, Eli, and God. Give each of them a copy of the script, item 2b, which is printed below for your convenience. Arrange the actors so that Samuel and Eli are separated by several feet. Those actors will need to lie down and pretend to sleep. Hannah needs to kneel and pray her line. God's voice is only heard he is not seen.

### **Listen to God**

**Narrator:** One day Hannah was praying that God would give her a son.

**Hannah:** God if you will give me a baby, a boy, I will give him back to you to serve you all the days he lives.

**Narrator:** God answered Hannah's prayer and she had a baby and named him Samuel. When he was old enough she took him to the temple to serve God. He worked with Eli the priest. This is what happened one night as Samuel and Eli were just lying down for the night.

**God:** Samuel

**Samuel:** (gets up and goes to Eli's room) Here I am. You called me.

**Eli:** I did not call. Go back and lie down. (Samuel goes back and lies down.)

**God:** Samuel, Samuel!

**Samuel:** (gets up and goes to Eli's room) Here I am. You called me.

**Eli:** I did not call you. Go back and lie down. (Samuel goes back and lies down.)

**God:** Samuel, Samuel!

**Samuel:** (gets up and goes to Eli's room) Here I am. You called me.

**Narrator:** Now Eli realized God was calling Samuel.

**Eli:** Go and lie down and if he calls you say, Speak Lord for your servant is listening. (Samuel goes and lies down.)

**God:** Samuel! Samuel!

**Samuel:** Speak, for your servant is listening.

**God:** I am going to do some mighty things in Israel and I will judge Eli's family because of the sin his sons have done.

**Narrator:** This is what happened the next morning.

**Eli:** Samuel, my son.

**Samuel:** Here I am.

**Eli:** What did God say to you? Tell me everything.

**Samuel:** God will do some mighty things in Israel. And will judge your family because of sin.

**Eli:** He is the Lord. Let him do what He knows is right.

**Narrator:** So, we see that God talked to Samuel and Samuel listened to God. We should listen to God.

So God spoke to Samuel in an audible voice and Samuel listened to God and chose to serve God for the rest of his life. This was Samuel's encounter with God. This is when Samuel got in to the game. Samuel chose to listen to and obey God.

**Apply the Lesson:**

We all get to choose to listen and obey God. Today God still speaks to people, including young people. We may not hear an audible voice, but God's Spirit will speak to those that are listening. Like Samuel, our job is to listen to God and obey. Samuel was on the sidelines. He served in the temple but he did not really know God. Maybe you are like Samuel. You may want to serve God, but you do not really know him. This week some of you will hear God. He may be telling you that He wants to have a relationship with you. He wants you to know Him.

So how can you get in the game if you are still on the sidelines?

**Listen to God** is the first key, **we have to be listening**. We may not hear God if we are too busy listening to our friends. Like we said earlier it is hard to hear the right voice if lots of voices are telling you things. We need to find a quiet time and place each day when we can listen to God. God spoke to Samuel when he was all alone and everything was quiet. If you want to hear God you need to spend time with just Him.

**Respond to God.** Samuel did not just hear what God said he did what God said. If you hear God calling you and want to respond to Him, talk to a shepherd or a staff member today to hear more about how to let God be in charge of your life.

**Be useful to God.** Maybe you already have a relationship with God you should still be listening to God. He will show you ways to serve Him. Yesterday we talked about serving not sitting on the sidelines. Samuel's life was an example of serving. After this first encounter with God he continued to serve God all his life. Let your life be a great example of serving.

**Memory Verse:**

First Timothy 4:12 is our memory verse for the week. How many of you remember it from yesterday? Practice the verse with the motions you came up with yesterday.

Today we want to talk a little more about this verse. How could you set an example for believers in the area of speech? How about conduct? What could you do that shows love? What about faith? What can we do to be an example of purity? Help children to understand that the things we say and do can either point people towards God or turn them away from God. The way we act can make others want to be in the game.

Why was God going to judge Eli's family? The judgment was because of the sin of his sons. His sons were using conduct that was wrong; they were disobeying God. God says we can set an example by doing what is right.



**Closing:**

Listen to God. If you really want to know what God has to say you need to read His book. **The Bible is a way that God speaks to us today.** It can answer a lot of questions and help you make the correct decision. If you are listening and searching for answers God will help you find the right answers

**When we are listening God does speak into our minds.** He speaks through impressions, events, and thoughts. He helps us to tell right from wrong through what he brings to our mind. God allows events to occur in our lives to direct us, change us and help us become better Christians. In the Bible, Elijah described God as a still, small voice (1 Kings 19:21).

As we close Bible study, we want to just close our eyes and listen to God. Give Him a chance to speak to you. After a few minutes of listening close in prayer. Pray that these students will continue to listen and respond to God.

**Extra Challenge:**

As an extra challenge today, find some time to share something God is telling you or has told you. Talk to a shepherd about what God is telling you. Sit with them and share anything you need to share. Tell your shepherd how they can best pray for you. Ask them any questions you have about how to listen, respond, and serve God.

Shepherds, you should make time today to connect with each child. Ask them how you can pray for them and answer any questions they have.

**Get in the Game**  
Session 3

## **It's a Heart Thing**

**Purpose:**

- To help students understand that God does not judge by appearance.
- To show students God knows them.

**Scripture used:**

- 1 Samuel 16:1-13
- Psalm 139:1

**Memory Verse:**

- Psalm 139:1, "O Lord, you have searched me and you know me."

**Supplies Needed:**

- Copy of lesson title page, "It's a Heart Thing" item 3a
- Box of chocolates with different centers
- Tape, fun tack or something to attach pages to the wall

**Teacher Preparation for Bible Study**

- Prepare teaching aids.
- Study the background teaching passages.
- Read the lesson and be ready to present it in your own words so that children understand the main idea.

**Main idea:**

- God knows you!

**Introduce the Bible Study:**

To introduce the Bible study, show the children a box of assorted chocolate covered candies. Tell them the different kinds of candy in the box and then give one candy to each child. If you have a large group of students you may want to just use some volunteers. By just looking at the candy it is difficult to identify what is inside each piece. Have the children guess what is in the center of the candy and then let them eat it (Be aware of any food allergies.) and find out. It should be difficult to tell what is inside by just looking at the outside.

**Transition to Bible Study:**

Just like the candy we cannot judge people by how they look. In fact, God does not do that. As we study this lesson listen for the way God looks at people.

Have students open their Bibles to 1 Samuel chapter 16. What did we learn about Samuel yesterday? Today we continue to see Samuel, an adult now, still listening to God. Here is a little background information on our story today. Saul, the king of Israel has disobeyed God and quit listening to what God wants him to do. So, God has rejected Saul and decided on a new king. God tells Samuel to take oil for anointing a king and go to the family of a man named Jesse. Samuel obeys God and goes to Bethlehem to find this new king.

**Teach the Bible Lesson:**

Begin to read the scripture at 1 Samuel 16:4-5. Samuel goes to Bethlehem to anoint God's new king. What does anointing a king mean? At that time putting oil on the head was used as a sign that God was with this person. So, that is all it was, Samuel was to put oil on the next king's head as a sign that he was chosen by God to be king. The people there are a little worried to see Samuel. Samuel tells them he comes in peace and wants to sacrifice with them. Jesse and his sons come to the sacrifice. Samuel knows that he is there not just to present a sacrifice to God, but to anoint a new king.

Read verses six and seven. Samuel sees Jesse's oldest son and thinks this must be the next king. Eliab must have been a tall, nice looking man. Before Samuel can anoint Eliab, God tell Samuel, "I have rejected him." Then God says what he is looking at to decide who will be king. What is it? The heart. What do you think God was saying? We cannot see the heart, but God can. God obviously did not decide who should be king based on appearance. God knows what we think and feel. When God looks at the heart he looks at who we really are. Post item 3a, lesson title page, "It's a Heart Thing."

Read verses eight through ten. Jesse had each of his seven sons come before Samuel and God did not choose any of these sons. You can picture Samuel meeting each son, looking at them and thinking, "Is this the one God?" And then just shaking his head as he realizes this is not the next king.

Read verse eleven. Samuel meets all the sons and God who knows each of their hearts continues to say this is not the one. None of them is who God wants to be king. I think Samuel is probably going, "Okay God you sent me here and now you don't want any of these

men to be king.” God must have told Samuel there is another one. So Samuel asks Jesse, “Are these all the sons you have?” There is another son, the youngest, really just a boy. He is out taking care of the sheep.

Read verses twelve and thirteen. God tells Samuel this is the one, “anoint him.” Samuel anoints David as the next king. David the youngest of eight brothers, probably just a boy at the time is chosen to be king. It is interesting that the boy who was not even invited to the dinner by his family because he was taking care of the animals was the one God wanted. David’s heart was examined by God and God chose David to be king.

**Apply the Lesson:**

David’s family did not even think to ask David to dinner, but to God, David was the next king. If we think about, “getting in the game,” David was the starting quarterback or the starting pitcher because of what God saw about David’s real character. Think for a minute about what the Bible means when it says, “God looks at the heart”. David was just a kid. God knew that David had great faith and would be a good leader for the country. When God looks at the heart He looks at who we really are. God knew what David was really like.

Like God knew who David really was, He knows who you really are. He knows your heart—what you think and feel and are going to do. In your inner being that no one sees but God are you really devoted to God and what He wants you to do? Would God pick you for His first string or would God say, “Is there anybody else?” God sees your motivation, your desires, and He knows why you make certain choices. No one else really knows you. God knows you. Have you really decided to let God be in charge of your life or are you still “in charge” on the inside. Just as God was looking for a king and found David, today God looks for people that are willing to serve Him with all their heart. Are you one of those people?

**Memory Verse:**

Briefly review 1Timothy 4:12.

Have students open their Bibles to Psalms 139:1. This is a short and easy verse to learn. It is a great reminder that God knows each of us. We cannot hide anything about ourselves from God. It is also a very personal verse. Let students practice the verse for two minutes.

Have volunteers complete the follow sentence: O Lord, you have searched me and you know... The students can fill in something that everyone else may not know about them—something God knows. For example: O Lord, you have searched me and you know I am afraid of the dark. Or, O Lord, you have searched me and you know even though I get mad at my sister, I love her.

**Closing:**

As you think about the lesson today, if you realize that your life is not what God would want it to be you can change. God saw in David a boy that loved God and wanted to follow God. The Bible tells us that God loves us and sent Jesus to die for us so that we might be able to follow God. If you are not following God you can. If you need to know more talk to one of the shepherds today.

Pray for the children to examine their hearts and really be committed to God.

**Extra Challenge:**

God looks at the heart. Remind yourself and others of this today. Make a heart with your hands. Whenever you feel like you need to focus less on you and what you want and more on what God wants raise your hands in that heart symbol. Then think about what God would want to see you do.

**Get in the Game**  
Session 4

**Play to Win**

**Purpose:**

- To encourage students to trust God.

**Scripture used:**

- 1 Samuel 17
- Psalms 27:1, 56:3, 118:6
- Isaiah 41:10

**Memory Verse:**

- Psalms 56:3, “When I am afraid I will trust in you.”

**Supplies Needed:**

- Copy of lesson title page, “Play to Win,” item 4a
- A strip of paper at least 9 feet long—post on wall
- Cardstock copies of the Bible verse, item 4b
- Balloon or circle of paper to use for face.
- Tape measure or measuring device (optional)
- Tape, fun tack or something to attach pages to the wall
- Coin for each child
- Pen or pencil/child

**Teacher Preparation for Bible Study**

- Prepare teaching aids. Study the background teaching passages.
- Read the lesson and be ready to present it in your own words so that children understand the main idea.
- Be prepared to present the monologue

**Main idea:**

- Trust God!

**Introduce the Bible Study:**

Before beginning the lesson post a strip of paper on the wall that is nine feet tall. You might want to put a balloon or circle at the top with a face drawn on it.

To introduce the lesson have the group figure out who is the tallest student. If you have a small group you might want to measure each child and mark their height on the paper strip you posted. When you have the tallest student compare them to the strip of paper. How much taller is the paper? Would you have to look straight up to see the head of a person that is that tall? Do you even come up to their waist?

Today's lesson is called, "Play to Win." Post lesson title page, item 4a. We are talking about someone in the Bible that was very tall. Can you guess who it is?

**Transition to Bible Study:**

The Bible says Goliath was over nine feet tall. The paper on the wall is nine feet high so that is about the height of Goliath. Not only was Goliath tall he was big and strong. The Bible tells us that he wore heavy armor and carried a spear. He also had a person whose job was to walk in front of him and carry his shield. We will hear his story in a minute.

Does anyone know what happened to Goliath? That's right he fought David. We will also be learning more about David today. What did we learn about David yesterday? Listen to responses. When David fought Goliath he was probably a teenager. The Bible does not say for sure but we know David was not in the Israelites' army. The Bible says some of David's older brothers were in the army. David's real job was being a shepherd.

**Teach the Bible Lesson:**

The story of David and Goliath is from 1 Samuel 17:1-58. Some of you, maybe all of you have heard this story before. Maybe you have never heard it this way before. Today you will hear the story from Goliath's view.

Have another shepherd read or tell the monologue printed below or tell it yourself. Make sure that the students understand that the person speaking is speaking as if they were Goliath.

### Goliath Monologue

Hello! My name is Goliath. As you can see, I am very big and strong. In fact, I am over nine feet tall—it is hard for anyone to measure me exactly. And look at these muscles. I joined the Philistine army because I can fight anyone and beat them. I am the champion whenever we meet an enemy. I always put on my bronze helmet and my bronze coat of armor that weighs about 125 pounds. I carry a long spear with an iron point that weighs about fifteen pounds. I have a man that is my shield bearer that walks in front of me to protect me from the enemy. No one can beat me.

One day my Philistine army went to fight the Israelites. We came to one hill and camped there. The Israelites our biggest enemies camped on another hill. There was a valley in-

between us. I saw the Israelites line up for battle. I saw that I was larger and looked stronger than any of them so I had an idea. I knew this would make me even more famous. I told the Israelite army, instead of all of our army fighting and lots of people getting killed here is what I suggest. You pick a champion, your very best fighter. I will be the champion for the Philistines. Your champion and I will be the only ones that fight. If your champion kills me the Philistines will become Israel's servants. We will do whatever you say. If I win, all the Israelites will become servants of the Philistines. Give me a man and let us fight each other. I could tell no one wanted to fight me. They all looked afraid. No one volunteered to fight me. You would be scared too wouldn't you?

Every morning and every evening for forty days I issued the same challenge. Send a man to fight me. I thought it was funny how all the men of Israel would run away when they saw me. I laughed at them.

Finally they told me someone would fight me. I got ready for the battle. I put on all my heavy armor. I sharpened my sword and spear. I went to the valley to meet their champion. I was ready and I knew I would win because I am the greatest fighter ever. I remember standing there waiting for their champion and knowing I was the greatest and did not need anyone else to help me win this battle.

Finally I saw someone coming down the opposite hill. He did not look very big. I guess that was just because he was so far away. As he got closer I noticed he was not any larger. In fact the Israel champion made me laugh. It was just a boy. He didn't even have any armor on. He carried a shepherd's staff and wore shepherds clothing including a pouch around his waist. He carried something else small in his hand. My shield bearer and I walked closer. I remember thinking my shield bearer could take this guy. It was just a boy and that made me angry.

I said, "Do you think I am just a dog that you can get rid of with a stick?" Then I cursed the Israelite God. I think they were making fun of me by just sending a boy out there. To scare him I said, "I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and the animals of the field." I thought he would run away once he saw me closely and heard what I said. He didn't look like he was afraid of me at all.

This boy, David was his name, said, "You come against me with a 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." He seemed pretty brave for such a little guy. I almost started to feel sorry for him—that this frightened Israelite army had made a kid come out to fight me. I was like a giant beside him. David continued to talk about his God. He said, "This day the Lord will hand you over to me, I'll strike you down and cut off your head. This very day I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds and the wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. 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."

After hearing this I didn't feel sorry for him anymore. He actually thought his God would help him. I moved closer to attack him. He did not retreat instead he ran to meet me. I saw him reach into the bag around his waist and take out a stone. He put it in the sling he carried in his hand and slung it around and around over his head. Then he let it fly. I saw the rock coming towards me. I figured I could knock it out of the way. I raised my spear to throw it at David. I really wasn't too concerned about the rock, but it hit me in the forehead. I felt it sinking into my head and I fell face down on the ground. Without even using a sword David killed me. How was that possible?

**Apply the Lesson:**

So David defeated Goliath. Was it because David was bigger and stronger? No. David was young and had no experience with the army. David had learned to depend on God. He knew God was with him and could defeat Goliath. David could not win the battle, but God could win because David was willing to trust God.

Sometimes we do not speak out for God like we should. Sometimes we are afraid of other people or maybe something scary is going on in our life. There was the Israelite army—all afraid. David knew who was in charge. If we are playing to win then that means we know God is in charge. God can take care of anything that causes us fear or worry. We need to trust God.

Here are a few verses that encourage us to look to God when we are afraid. Read and briefly discuss these verses or assign them to students to read:

Psalms 56:3  
Psalms 27:1  
Isaiah 41:10  
Psalms 118:6

Fear kept the Israelite army from being, “in the game.” Remember these verses and do not let fear take you out of the game. Like David we want to stand up for God no matter what we have to stand against. We want to trust God and do everything we can to win any battle before us.

**Memory Verse:**

Psalms 56:3 is our memory verse. Have the children open their Bibles and read this verse. Ask them who the verse is talking about. Who should we trust in?

Give each child a cardstock copy of the verse. Have them rewrite it on the back of the paper changing it to include something that might cause them fear. Also change the “you” to God. For example: When I am alone at night I will trust in God. When I face a bully I will trust in God. When I am sick or hurt I will trust in God. If time allows let students share what they wrote.

**Closing:**

There are things everyday that can make us worry and be afraid. Sometimes fear is a good thing because it may stop us from doing something we should not do. Like riding our bike on a busy street. Fear can also be a bad thing when it stops us from doing something we should do—like telling people about Jesus or saying no to friends that want us to do something bad. Make sure that you trust in God and do the things He would want you to do.

Pray for the students to be bold when it comes to trusting God.

**Extra Challenge:**

Give each child a coin. Have them find the words, “In God we trust.” When we see that on our coins it is a nice reminder to trust God. Have the students carry their coin with them today, in their pocket or in whatever they carry. When they see or touch the coin they should be reminded to trust God.