

# ONE

## STORY

### SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

### WEEK 15

### David and Goliath

#### BEFORE THE SESSION:

- Look over the suggested questions to the right. Ask God to guide you to the ones that will work best for your group.
- Be prepared to get the discussion going in your group if they're not feeling it today.
- Don't feel like you have to know all there is to know about scripture. Use this week's study notes to prepare yourself. But, if something arises that you can't answer, tell your group, "That's a great question. I'll research that and get back with you." Then, email eddie.mosley@lifepointchurch.org for help.

#### THIS WEEK'S BIG IDEA

The glory of God is more important than we are.

#### TO PREPARE FOR NEXT WEEK:

Read about David's struggles with Saul and Saul's ruin.

#### AS YOU READ...

...Think about who in your life needs to hear about the things you're reading.

## CONNECT

(10 min.)

Choose one of the following questions to begin your time together as a group. If your group has been together a while, you may want to skip question 1 in favor of question 2.

1. **If Goliath were here challenging us today, who in our small group would you "volunteer" to accept his proposal? Why?**
2. **Has there ever been a time in your life when you were so concerned with God's name that you could not remain quiet or inactive?**

## EXPLORE

(40 min.)

Say something like, "Today we are learning about how the glory of God is more important than we are." Then guide your group through these questions.

1. **In your own words, retell the story of David and Goliath in 1 Samuel 17.**
2. **If you heard this story in worship this week, what statement or experience stood out to you? What stood out during last week's reading?**  
  
(Leader: Take some time to discuss any questions that may have arisen as your members read through this week's assigned reading.)
3. **Read 1 Samuel 17:4-7. Describe Goliath, his armor and his weaponry (see scripture notes). Why would the Israelite soldiers be afraid of him?**
4. **Read 1 Samuel 9:2 and 1 Samuel 17:11. What do Saul's physical stature and his reign as a representative of God indicate about his responsibility to address Goliath's challenge? How did he respond?**
5. **Read 1 Samuel 17:25-27. What motivated David to fight Goliath?**
6. **David's greatest concern when fighting Goliath was that God's name was glorified. When are we to be concerned with the glory of God? What places do we consider as inappropriate for sharing Christ?**
7. **Which character in the story of David and Goliath do you think best represents you? Why might it be more difficult to go through the week in the character of David rather than another person from the story?**

## TRANSFORM

(10 min.)

Say something like, "Today we've seen how God's glory is more important than our own desires." Then wrap up your time by asking the following question and praying together.

8. **What did you learn about God from our discussion? About people? What will you do with what you learned?**

# This Week's Study Notes:

## The Glory of God

The story of David and Goliath can be applied to so many areas of our lives. When we face obstacles that are very difficult to overcome, such as disease or relationship problems, we sometimes call them "giants" that we must defeat. But the real point of this great story is the glory of God. David heard that this Philistine (Goliath) had been defaming the name of God, and he would not stand for it. So this young guy armed with five little rocks was so consumed with the glory of God that he had no regard for his own life and safety. How do you respond when someone defames God's name?

## Scripture Notes

### 1 Samuel 17:5, 7

5000 shekels is about 125 lbs. 600 shekels is about 15 lbs.

### 1 Samuel 17:11

In an age before surveillance equipment and automatic weapons, this battle was proposed as a contest of champions. But Israel's army had no champion willing to face a loud-mouthed nine-foot-plus opponent.

### 1 Samuel 17:37

A person of faith is one who has the presence of mind to remember back to the times when God was there for them in the past, and from that find confidence that God will also be there for them in the present and future.

### 1 Samuel 17:46

David's motivation for victory is completely different than Saul's. David's ambitions are directed toward glorifying God.

## Leader Tips

### AS YOU READ THIS WEEK...

- Think about and pray for each member of your small group.
- Think through the following questions:
  1. Whom does God bring to mind as I read these verses? Why?
  2. What needs to change in my own life as a result of what I'm reading?
  3. Whom do I need to tell about these verses?

### FOR ADDITIONAL STUDY WE RECOMMEND...

- Bible Commentary: [Bible.org](http://Bible.org)
- Bible Commentary: [DesiringGod.org](http://DesiringGod.org)
- Pronouncing Biblical Words: [Netministries.org/Bbasics/bwords.htm](http://Netministries.org/Bbasics/bwords.htm)

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