

La Novela de Dios

Episode 5: David – A Warrior King



connect with needs

- Find out how they are doing.
 - Pray for wisdom from God for the session.
 - Start by stating: **"We can't always judge people or circumstances on appearances alone"**
- Then, surface experiences:
- "Let me tell you how I have experienced this."
- "Tell us how you have experienced this."
- Transition to the Bible by saying, "This is also true in the Christian life."
 - Illustration(s):

notes & preparation checklist

pray

- Pray for wisdom.
- Pray for group members.

connect

- Think of a good personal example to share.
- Decide when and how to transition from **connect** to **hear**.

hear what God says

Read the following passages:

1 Samuel 16:1-13
1 Samuel 17:4-11, 32-37
1 Samuel 17:41-50

Commentary:

1 Samuel 16:1-13—In the beginning of this passage, we see that Samuel, who is a prophet, is upset because the king (Saul) is not walking with the Lord. So God tells him to go out and that God will lead him to the man that He's chosen. (One of Jesse's sons). When Samuel goes, he learns that God does not judge people based on the world's standards. God chooses the youngest son to be king.

1 Samuel 17:4-11, 32-37—The Philistines have always been enemies of Israel, and now they have sent a man who is 9 feet, 9 inches tall to challenge them. Not putting their faith in the Lord, Israel trembles in fear. David, however, the youngest and smallest of his brothers, is willing to fight the giant. He's not even old enough to be in the army! When Saul (the king) questions David, David says that He has faith in the Lord and that God will help him win the battle

1 Samuel 17:41-50—David bravely goes out to meet the giant. Goliath curses him and makes fun of him, but David says that he is coming in the name of the Lord. Rather than trusting his own ability, David says that, when he wins, it will be because of God's power.

hear

Alternate questions to ask:

- **1 Samuel 16:1-13**
- 1. How did Samuel's reactions to Jesse's sons show that he was judging by outward appearances and not by the heart?
- 2. Why do you think God chose David instead of his older brothers? If the older brothers were bigger and stronger, why didn't God choose them?
- 1 Samuel 17:4-11**
- 1. If the Israelites knew that God could rescue them, why were they so afraid?
- 2. Why did David have faith? Why wasn't he afraid?

notes & preparation checklist

- Discuss each passage using these questions, or the alternate questions below:

"What do you think this passage teaches us?"

"What can we learn about God or our response to God?"

How do you think this passage relates to the statement we discussed earlier: **"We can't always judge people or circumstances on appearances alone"**

When Samuel set out to find the new king, he expected it to be one of Jesse's older sons, someone big and strong who had been fighting in the army. Instead, God reminds Samuel that, even though people look to outward appearances, God judges by the heart.

Later, when there seems to be an impossible battle ahead of Israel, the warriors are afraid instead of trusting God. Because of the giant's height, no one will fight him because they are sure that he will win. They are judging by outward appearances instead of remembering that God provides for his people. God uses David, a young shepherd boy, to remind Israel that God can use whoever he wants to use, and that we can't always judge by what's on the outside.

In the end, David has enough faith in God to fight the giant, and God comes through. Like He's done in the past, God rescues His people. Later, we will see that God will send the ultimate rescuer, Jesus. And God chose David—a man who put his trust in the God who rescues His people—to be one of Jesus' forefathers.

- **1 Samuel 17:41-50**
- 1. How does Goliath's reaction to David show that he was judging by outward appearances?
- 2. David is very confident. Why is he so sure he will defeat the giant?
- 3. When David does win, where does he put the credit? What does he want "all who are gathered there" to know?

apply that to life

- State the main lesson: **"God doesn't judge by outward appearances, but instead chooses people who have faith in Him."** Have them write the **lesson learned** on their Mini-Journal card.
- Discuss:
Why do you think God picked David? What was it about his character that made him a good candidate for a warrior and a king?
What can we learn from David's attitude when he told Saul why he wanted to fight the giant? Where should we find our confidence in difficult situations?
How does this story encourage us when we face circumstances that appear impossible?

"What is one action you can take this week to remind yourself that your confidence comes from God and not from your circumstances?"

- Have them write down their specific **action to take**. Then in groups of two or three, have them share what action they plan to take. Finally, have them pray for one another.

notes & preparation checklist

apply

- Decide when and how to transition from **hear** to **apply**.
- Be prepared to encourage people to a specific action step. Have an example in mind.
- Print Mini Journal

tell someone they know

- Ask whom they know who might be interested in hearing about what they are learning.
- Have them write the name after **person to tell**. Then, in groups of two or three, have them share whom they plan to tell. Finally, have them pray for one another.
- Encourage them to tell those people in the next few days.

notes & preparation checklist

tell

- Commit to encourage people to do this despite their natural tendency not to.
- Look for group members who "tell" easily. They may be good at leading their own group soon.

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Faith Bigger Than Giants



lesson learned



action to take



person to tell

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