

# INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY

## DAVID AND THE DWARF

By Nina Atcheson



For use in *Animated/Engaged Learning*.

The most famous battle described in the Old Testament was not fought between two armies, but between two people.

**1. Some time before this battle, what advice did God give to Samuel, the prophet? (1 Samuel 16:7)**

... To look at the heart ...

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.....

**2. How did God's advice apply to what David was about to do in 1 Samuel 17?**

... He was not respected, but it didn't matter because he could do it with God's help ...

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**3. Write and draw a depiction of how the Bible describes Goliath. (See 1 Samuel 17:4-7)**

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4. Write and draw a depiction of how the Bible describes David (1 Samuel 16:12, 18).

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5. What does verse 11 tell us about the Israelites?

That the youngest was the least important of the family, so they assumed God  
would not want the least important

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6. Imagine what David might have thought as he entered the army camp.  
What emotions might have gone through his mind?

scared, fear, calm knowing God was with him.

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7. What happened as David was talking to his brothers? (verses 23, 24)

they became filled with fear because of goliath.

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**8. Why were the Israelites so intimidated? Couldn't they have just fought the Philistine army?**

... because the one on one battles were a deciding factor in who actually won the ...  
... whole battle. ...  
...  
...  
...

**9. Although this was the first time that David had heard Goliath's threats, he reacts differently than all the other men. Why?**

... Strong faith in God ...  
...  
...  
...  
...

**10. Look at the conversation between David and his older brother Eliab in verses 28–30.  
What lesson can you learn from David here?**

... do not judge before learning who or what they are, do not jump to conclusions! ...  
...  
...  
...  
...  
...  
...  
...  
...

11. When Saul heard David's brave words to the men, he called for David. At this point, David wasn't significant in his eyes, even though he may have played for him in court. Saul himself doesn't want to fight Goliath, but won't admit it. But when he sees David, he's surprised that a kid can be so brave. What does David then share with Saul, and why is this significant? (verses 34–37)

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12. Saul makes David try on his armor because he feels guilty that he's sending a kid to face the terrible giant. After trying the huge battle clothes on, David chooses to fight without them, and instead chooses five smooth stones from the ground, taking his "stick" with him. What lesson is there in this for us about our battles in life?

we don't need anything besides God to overcome troubles in our lives.

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13. Imagine David walking down into the valley to meet Goliath, who had already started coming up the other side (v 25). Imagine the silence of the Israelite camp, and the mocking voices from the Philistine camp when they saw David. Imagine what David must have felt as he approached Goliath with every step. What do David's words tell us about what he was thinking and feeling (verses 45–47)?

that he had faith in God and that God would help in overcoming things.

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**14. What “giants” have you faced?**

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**15. In considering your “giants,” how might things have changed had you heard and followed God’s advice to Samuel?**

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**16. How does this story encourage you, personally (even though you may have heard it many, many times before)?**

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**17. In the aftermath of the battle, what happens to David?**

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