

### Chapter 11 – From Shepherd to King Day One – One Big Bully

**Today's reading:** Page 145 through bottom page 150

**This reading covers:** 1 Samuel 16-17

**Summary:** God's people are afraid of the giant.

**Do together:** Play a flashlight game. When it is dark, herd everyone into a bedroom and sit on the floor together. Turn the lights off and the flashlight on. Shine the flashlight toward the ceiling and while everyone is watching the ceiling, stretch your arm high in the air and just into the light of the flashlight. Pull your hand slowly closer to the light and see how big and scary your hand looks on the ceiling. Let the children try it too.

**Think about:** Goliath was a big, big man with big, big hands. He stood very tall and very strong and very large. He was not afraid of anything, but all his enemies were very afraid of him. God's people were his enemies. All of King Saul's army was frightened of Goliath. Even David's brothers who were fighting in the army were afraid of him. Was David afraid of that bully, Goliath? Why wasn't David afraid?

**Also read:** Psalm 56:3. This verse will be referred to every day during this chapter for emphasis. It is a simple verse to remember, and a wonderful verse for your family to set to memory.

**Prayer:** Dear God, thank you that you are bigger, and stronger, and mightier than any enemy we will ever have. Thank you that you are always on our side. We can trust you to keep us safe and help us to do what is right. We love you. In Jesus' name, Amen.

### Chapter 11 – From Shepherd to King Day Two – The Giant Falls

**Today's reading:** Middle of page 146 through bottom of page 150

**This reading covers:** 1 Samuel 17

**Summary:** By trusting in and fighting for God, David defeats Goliath.

**Do together:** Look up Philippians 4:13. Read it aloud and then think of a short cheer to say as a family that reminds you all of this verse. Something like, "God can do it all!" or "It's God who gives me strength!" Whenever something difficult comes up in the family, use the little cheer to remind one another where your strength lies.

**Think about:** God gave David a big job to fight Goliath. David knew that God would help him and that God can do everything because he is bigger and more powerful than anyone. So David trusted God, and did what God asked him to do. We can do anything that God wants us to do because God is on our side.

**Also read:** Psalm 56:3 again.

**Prayer:** God you are mighty and strong and powerful. You give us your power to do everything that you want us to do. We never have to be afraid to do your will. Please give us your courage and help us to follow you in all things. In Jesus' name, Amen.

### Chapter 11 – From Shepherd to King Day Three – God is My Strength

**Today's reading:** Page 152

**This reading covers:** Psalm 59

**Summary:** David prays and expresses faith that God will protect him.

**Do together:** Have the children teach the family one song from their kids worship time at church. If it involves movement, get up and move! Sing it together a few times.

**Think about:** David loved God so much that he often made his prayers into songs. Many of the Psalms in the Bible are songs that David wrote to praise God and to thank God for protecting him. Most of the songs we sing at church are songs made up from Bible words.

If you have a Bible concordance, you might see if you can find any scripture that matches your family's song today. Singing praise music is a wonderful way to get actual scripture into the hearts of your children and yourself.

**Also read:** Psalm 56:3 once more. Perhaps the children have memorized this by now. Maybe you can even make up a song for the words and turn it into your family's own praise song.

**Prayer:** Dear God, we love you so much. We trust you for all that we need. We trust you for our food and our home and our safety. We know you will always take care of us, because you love us even more than we love each other. Thank you for your love and care for us. In Jesus' name, Amen.