

## BIBLE TIMELINE ASSEMBLIES

### 50. DAVID AND GOLIATH

*The drama script for this assembly was originally written by a team from Scripture Union England for an event called X:site in 2012 and is used with permission.*

Bible Base: 1 Samuel 17

Key Christian Belief: God chooses a king who fights for his people.

Aim: To help children understand that Jesus fought against sin for us and won.

#### **You will need:**

- a sword and a shield for Goliath;
- a crown for King Saul;
- a sling and some pretend stones (scrunched up paper) for David;
- some oversized pieces of 'armour' for David to try on - e.g. a helmet, a leather jacket, shin guards or boots.

#### **Introduction**

Talk about people who are chosen to represent their country in sporting competitions. Give some current examples. They may take part individually - e.g. in swimming - or as part of a team - e.g. in football. If they win, the medal (or cup) is awarded not just to them but to the country they represent - e.g. Great Britain. They are playing for their country and if it is our country they are playing for, we watch and cheer for them. We may say 'we won' at the end - even though 'we' weren't actually taking part at all. This one person or team has been representing us. When they win - we win.

Ask if any of the pupils have been chosen to represent their school in a competition of any kind? What was that like? What might it be like to represent your country?

Today's story is about someone who volunteered to represent his country in a contest - but it wasn't just a cup or a medal he was playing for. It was far more serious than that!

#### **Bible Story**

Tell the story using the attached drama script. Choose volunteers (preferably in advance) to play the parts of David, Goliath, Saul and three of David's brothers. Give each of them a copy of the script with his character's lines highlighted. The part of Goliath could be played by an adult - either someone you bring with you, or a male member of staff who is willing to do it. The drama will work best if at least David, Saul and Goliath know their lines without having to use a script.

#### **Exploring Christian Belief**

How do you think the people of Israel felt when they saw a shepherd boy with no armour on going out to represent them against Goliath?

How do you think they felt when David won? Why?

Of course, David became their hero. They talked about him, they told his story over and over again, they made up songs about him. He had gone out to fight for them and won. And because he had won - they had won. They were no longer in any danger of being taken captive by the Philistines. Now they were free - free to live as God's people in the land full of all the good things that He had promised.

The people didn't know it yet - but this young shepherd boy would one day be their king and the people of Israel even today will tell you that he was the best king they ever had. But he was not perfect. There were times when he made selfish choices and disobeyed God. There were times when he brought trouble on his people. So God promised that one day an even greater king would rule over all His people - and His name is Jesus.

Like David, this king too fought for His people and won. The Bible says that God had always intended that we would live as His friends, enjoying all the good things that He would provide for us. But there was one big giant problem in the way - the problem of the wrong things in our lives that separate us from Him. And there wasn't a thing any of us could do about that.

Christians believe that the wrong things in our lives and in our world come from Satan, God's enemy. It is as if we are his prisoners and cannot escape.

The Bible teaches us that it took Jesus to come and fight for us. By taking the blame for the wrong things in our lives it is as if He went into battle against Satan, sin and death for us - and won! We have no need to be afraid of any of these things any longer. Because Jesus won - we win too. Christians believe that if we are trusting and following Him we are free to live as God's friends and to enjoy all the good things that He has promised. There is no longer anything in the way!

The Bible teaches us that Jesus is the perfect king. Just like David, He fought for His people and won. And because He won - we win too!

### **Prayer**

Finish with a prayer thanking Jesus for the victory He won and for what it means for us today.