



## Week 5: The Captain

**Do any of you know what a captain in sports is?** A captain is often chosen when you're a little bit older. But a captain is someone chosen by the coach because he/she is a good LEADER on the team. **What do you think makes a good LEADER?** Right! on the field it could be someone with a good attitude, who encourages his/her teammates. In life, in school, your home, among your friends, a good leader is someone who is an example of doing good, not getting yourself or others into trouble and showing God's love.

In First Samuel we find an example of a great leader...DAVID. **Anyone know what David is famous for?** Defeating Goliath! That's right...for forty days, Goliath, the 9-ft Philistine GIANT warrior would taunt and challenge God's people, the Israelites, to battle. The Israelites "were terrified" of fighting him...I mean he was a BIG DUDE. When David went to the battlefield one day to bring his brothers food, he was disappointed when he saw how scared his brothers and their army were...he knew the Israelite army was GOD's army and with God Goliath could be defeated. So David decided he would defeat Goliath. David tried to put on the protective armor, but he was not used to it so he took off the armor and instead put five stones in his pocket. When Goliath saw David he made fun of him, but David said "You come to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to you *in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel*". David ran toward Goliath, took out his sling and swung a stone at Goliath. The stone hit Goliath in the forehead and with just one stone, the Giant came tumbling down...David defeated the big, scary Goliath with the Lord's strength. What a LEADER, and champion for Christ David was.

More than likely none of you will have to defeat a legit giant in your lives (can you imagine???), but there will be difficult and scary situations or big problems you have to solve in your life with a positive, courageous attitude, knowing God is in control. He wants you to be a Captain, a LEADER in doing GOOD and loving others in your life. **If He were to look at your life and actions today, would you be chosen as a captain?** If so, keep being a great leader....if not, change that today by praying to be a better leader, making choices that direct others toward goodness, love, and ultimately toward Christ.

CLOSE IN PRAYER