

# Fighting Talk: Courage and Confidence in God

## A Children's Character Building Bible Story



By

Brenda J Walcott

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# Fighting Talk: Courage and Confidence in God

## FOREWORD

Fighting talk is a children's character building Bible story, based on the life of David. A favourite among children's Bible heroes, the story of David and Goliath has the inspiring story plot of the humble underdog who shows courage and saves the day, by living out his faith in God and his passion for His honour.

Colourful contemporary images illustrate the story and brightens the pages for both young children and adult readers. A delightful story with the rhyming tag line, that the children may repeat/refrain with the story teller/reader: "In all that he had to do, his confidence in God shone through"

Additional feature include: A short Bible stories/poem that may be used as a devotional or to add depth and interest to a sermon related to the main character Uriah. And one activity sheet – a word search puzzle.

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## **Fighting Talk: A Story of David the Shepherd King**

Once upon a time, in the rolling green hills of Bethlehem, there lived a young shepherd boy named David. His days were spent under the vast, blue sky, guarding his fluffy, bleating sheep from sneaky wolves and hungry lions that lurked in the shadows. David wasn't just any shepherd; he was a warrior of words, a composer of choruses and canticles (songs), and a future king of Israel, anointed by the prophet Samuel.

In the verdant fields of Bethlehem, where streams of water curved through the lush grassy slopes, David, the shepherd boy, tended his father's flock. The sun hung warm and golden in the sky, a gentle breeze whispered through the plains, and the air was filled with the tranquil sounds of nature, birds' songs and the occasional bleating of the sheep. And in all that he had to do; his confidence in God shone through.

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## The Encounter with the Lion

On a day when the sky was like a canvas of the most brilliant blue, David was watching over the flock. As he played his harp, composing melodies that echoed the psalms of trust in the Lord, a shadow fell upon the land. A lion, its mane like a golden halo of sunlight, walked stealthily from the thicket towards David and his herd of sheep.



David's heart did not falter; he recalled the words of one of his psalms (Psalms 23): "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want ... though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil for you are with me, your rod and your staff, they comfort me."

As the lion approached, David stood up to meet his gaze, his faith as a shield. With agility and divine favour, he confronted the beast, protecting the lambs as though they were his own kin.

As the lion charged, David met it with the swiftness of an eagle. With a staff in his hand and faith in his heart, he struck the lion down, delivering the sheep from harm. The lion lay defeated, and David stood victorious, his faith unshaken. He lifted his voice in praise, "With my God I can scale a wall." (And Psalms 18:34) "He teaches my hands to war, so that a bow of steel is broken by my

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arms. He trains my hands for war, so that my arms can bend a bow of bronze.” And in all that he had to do; his confidence in God shone through.

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## The Encounter with the Bear

The following day, as dark clouds gathered and a storm brewed on the horizon, David found himself face to face with a bear. The earth was soft and yielding beneath his feet, and the air was charged with the scent of rain. Yet, David's spirit was unshaken. He remembered the words of another of his Psalm 27: "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?" And Psalm 61:3

"For thou hast been a shelter for me, and a strong tower from the enemy."

With the same courage that had seen him through the previous day, David engaged the bear. As he fought he moved with grace and the strength of one who knows the Lord's protection. With courage that belied his youth, David faced the bear. The battle was fierce, but the shepherd's resolve was fiercer. The bear, overpowered by the young shepherd's resolve, turned towards the wilderness, but with a well-aimed stone, David felled the bear, and peace returned to the valley.

As he watched over his flock, his heart swelled with the assurance of God's presence. After the confrontation, David looked to the heavens, his voice rising above the storm, proclaiming, "The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" So in all that he had to do; his confidence in God shone through.

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## The Call of Destiny

One beautiful day, while the sun played hide and seek with the clouds, David heard a call that would change his life forever. “David!” his brother called, “prophet Samuel wants to see you.”



When the brothers got home, the prophet blessed David and anointed his head and locks with golden olive oil, that streamed down his face and down his cotton robe... “you are to be more than a shepherd. You are to lead God’s people, Israel” Samuel declared. David’s heart danced like the leaves in the breeze, at once thrilling with excitement and with amazement, for he knew the God who promised that this was his destiny. So in all that he had to do; David’s confidence in God shone through.



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## The Giant Challenge



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As David grew, so did his courage. Now a giant of the Philistines named Goliath challenged the armies of Israel, his voice thundering across the valley like a stampeding horses.

When King Saul worried about David's youthfulness and inexperience, he replied as follows:

34 "And David said unto Saul, Thy servant kept his father's sheep, and there came a lion, and a bear, and took a lamb out of the flock:

35 And I went out after him, and smote him, and delivered it out of his mouth: and when he arose against me, I caught him by his beard, and smote him, and slew him.

36 Thy servant slew both the lion and the bear: and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them, seeing he hath defied the armies of the living God."

Thus David, armed with only a sling and a stone, stood tall. "You come against me with a sword and a shield and a spear, but I come against you in the name of the Lord of hosts," he declared. All this fighting talk came from strong faith and confidence in God.

The earth shook as the giant ran towards him, but he did not flinch. In fact, he ran to meet him. Skilfully swinging his sling above his head to give the smooth stone momentum. And then with a flick of his wrist, he let the stone soar. It smacked Goliath right in the centre of his forehead, and the giant of Gath, came tumbling down. It was a victory of faith over fear, a triumph of trust (in God) over weapons of war. In all that he had to do; his confidence in God shone through.

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## **The Fugitive's Path**

In the land of Israel, where the olive trees swayed to the tune of the wind, there was a time when David, the shepherd boy turned hero, found himself in a game of shadows and pursuits. King Saul, with his heart turned sour by jealousy, sought to harm David, who had once soothed his troubled spirit with melodies from his harp.

David, with his heart heavy but his spirit unshaken, fled into the wilderness. He became a shadow among the rocks, a whisper in the caves, always one step ahead of Saul's relentless pursuit. The desert was his refuge, the stars his companions, as he evaded the grasp of the king who once cherished him and his harp.

## **Encounter With Wise Abigail**

As David wandered, he met Abigail, a woman of beauty and wisdom, who saw the true king within the fugitive. With words as sweet as honey and a heart full of courage, she prevented bloodshed and won David's admiration. "Blessed be your advice and blessed be you, who have kept me this day from coming to bloodshed," David praised her. And in all that he had to do; his confidence in God shone through.

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## **The Cave of Conscience**

The most telling moment came when David found himself in the depths of a cave with Saul, vulnerable and unaware, within his reach. David's men whispered, "This is the day the Lord spoke of," urging him to strike. But David, with a heart guided by God, chose mercy over vengeance. "The Lord forbid that I should do such a thing to my master, the Lord's anointed," he declared, cutting only a piece of Saul's robe as proof of his presence.

## **The Warrior's Psalm**

Even as a fugitive, David's trust in God was unyielding. He sang of the lessons learned in the shadows, "He trains my hands for war, so that my arms can bend a bow of bronze." His psalms echoed through the valleys, a testament to his faith and the divine protection that enveloped him. So, in all that he had to do; his confidence in God shone through.

## **The Legacy of the Shepherd King**

David's journey from the pastures to the palace was marked by trials and triumphs, friendship and forgiveness. His life, a story of courage and compassion, teaches us that even in the face of adversity, one can choose righteousness over revenge, friendship over enmity, and faith over fear.

And so, let the story of David inspire you to face your giants, cherish your friendships, and trust in the wisdom and promises of God. For in his tale, we find the strength to fight our battles with honour, faith and grace. Like David; In all that you have to do; let your confidence in God shine through.

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## The King and the Mirror: The Sad Story of David and Bathsheba

Many years ago in the golden city of Jerusalem, where the walls gleamed under the setting sun, there lived king David. He was a man after God's own heart, but even the mightiest man can stumble, and so did he...

### A Gaze Astray



One evening, as the stars began to twinkle in a calm twilight sky, David walked upon his rooftop. His eyes wandered and fell upon Bathsheba as she was bathing. A woman of stunning beauty. Despite knowing she was another man's wife, David's heart was ensnared, and he invited her to the palace. It was a choice that

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dimmed the brightness of his soul, as when a cloud passes over the sun. This once David failed to let his faith in God shine through. After two moon cycles passed, David learned of the child conceived on that fateful night. And he tried to cover his sin by calling one of his loyal soldiers home from battle...urging him to go home to be with his wife.

### **The Battle Within**

David's heart was in turmoil, like a sea during a storm. He knew he had done wrong, and the battle within him raged. "Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight," he would later cry out in a psalm, his spirit wrestling with the weight of his actions.

### **The Parable of Conscience**

Nathan the prophet, a man of God, came to David with a story—a parable of a rich man who took a poor man's only lamb. David's anger flared against the injustice, not realizing he was the man in the mirror. "You are the man!" Nathan declared, and David's heart shattered like pottery. He had taken what was not his to take, and the cost was more than he could bear.

### **A Father's Grief**

The child born to David and Bathsheba fell gravely ill, and David, with a father's love, fasted and prayed, lying on the ground in desperation. But the heavens were silent, and the child passed away. David arose, his fast ended, his heart filled with sorrow and acceptance. "While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept; for I said, 'Who knows whether the Lord will be gracious to me, that the child may live?'" he reflected. This was what he had to do; to let his faith in God shine through.

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## The Dawn of Forgiveness

Through his tears, David saw the dawn of forgiveness. He washed, anointed himself, and went into the house of the Lord to worship. It was a step towards healing, a whisper of hope amidst the echoes of loss. “The Lord has taken away your sin; you shall not die,” Nathan had assured him, and in those words, David found the strength to rebuild the ruins of his broken heart.

He found release in repentance and wrote; in Psalms 32:3-6

3 When I kept silent,  
my bones wasted away,  
through my groaning all day long.

4 For day and night  
your hand was heavy on me.

My strength was sapped,  
as in the heat of summer.

5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you,  
and did not cover up my iniquity.

I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.”

“And you forgave the guilt of my sin.”

This shows what you must do; to let your faith in God shine through.

## A King's Reflection

Years passed, and David, with his crown of faithfulness, sat upon the throne. He remembered his journey, from the pastures to the palace. “The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want,” he sang, his voice echoing through the halls of time. His psalms became our hymns of praise, woven with threads of gratitude and deep trust in God.

In Psalm 33:16-19:

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16 There is no king saved by the multitude of a host:  
a mighty man is not delivered by much strength.

17 A horse is a vain thing for safety:  
neither shall he deliver any by his great strength.

18 Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon them that fear him,  
upon them that hope in his mercy;

David's story tells of battles and blessings, of shepherds and kings. His life was a symphony of highs and lows, all under the conductor's baton of faith. He left us with a treasure chest of quotable quotes, from his courage in the face of giant challenges to his quiet trust in God, even in quiet green pastures.

There are many object lessons to learn from David, the boy who spoke with the voice of thunder and would later lead as a king with a heart of gold. His story teaches us that no matter how small you start, your words and faith can move mountains. And as we relish the stories of courage, let us carry David's legacy in our hearts, for in his story, we find the fighting talk of faith that can inspire us all to trust and depend on God. And in all that he had to do; his confidence in God shone through.



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## The Unsung Hero Uriah the Hittite

In ancient texts, this story is told,  
Of Uriah the Hittite, brave and bold.  
A warrior of King David's band,  
So Loyal to his king's command.

In the ancient fields where the battle raged,  
His valour is told on pages aged.  
A soldier steadfast in the fight,  
Under the moon and sun's bright light.

Yet, not by fair war or spear's deep bite,  
But by his king's own covert slight,  
Did Uriah meet his cruel fate,  
A tale of trust and deceit waits.

Sent to the front where death was sure,  
By sinful order of motive impure.  
For love and power did intertwine,  
To seal the fate of this soldier fine.

His honour stood, untarnished, clear,  
A man of faith, and void of fear.  
Uriah the Hittite, David's unsung hero  
A legacy that's told of honour and sorrow

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## Word Search Puzzle Worksheet

DAVIDZLOWBLAWDSHEPHERD  
ESCAPEDI PGCKINGBOYSFKEP  
LPOODGISLDOKEEPSBROOKC  
IMPOR TANTSSLURIAOOLVUIH  
VASHT I ZMIBDAILMONPPLAYA  
ELEVAT EDXLUITARJEWQBSIR  
RIVERSIDEPASTIMTABROTHIA  
EBPSALMSCBRONZESHIELDIC  
RLEWOLVESTOOUKLGIANTSIT  
MPTTSAMUELKOPPPROPHETOE  
POOFHRABIGAILMLPOYHJDFR  
HELPELMWKFLTUOPNKYRME O  
FMNDSAEZXCVBMNOHKGJTKP  
L IONMSBHBEAROPQSHKMLOD  
EBLOPXCWEGJFKRLTKYUOPI  
APREFSMQUMFIGHTINGTALKT  
HAESTHEAWFGHIPKJFDAWSTR  
XHB LUESKIESQEWYTROYUTOI  
SXERXESEMN BV CXZQWIBOMO  
TESTINGBLOPPQUID ESTHERT  
ZIPTYHECOURAGEBPOLICE  
OCONFIDENCEBQZCXIPFRIWS

ELEVATE	LION	XERXES	PROPHET
RIVERSIDE	PSALMS	BOY	CHARACTER
SHEPHERD	HELP	WOLVES	BRONZE
KING	BETHLEHEM	CONFIDENCE	BROOK
IMPORTANT	ESCAPED	BLUE SKIES	LAW
SHEEP	KEEPS	TESTING	ESTHER
VASHTI	URIAH	SAMUEL	GIANT
ABIGAIL	BEAR	FIGHTING	TALK

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## REFERENCES

King James Version of the Holy Bible. Psalms, 1 Samuel and 2 Samuel.

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