

Bullies: Taking Down Goliath



Youth Ministry
August 4, 2013

Sundays
in August
at 9:15am



Lesson:

This week we talked about one of the most difficult lessons that Jesus ever taught, “Love Your Enemies”. We started with what Jesus said in Matthew 5:43-47 and Luke 6:27-28 and applied it to “enemies” that we often face today, bullies.

Jesus tells us that we should love everyone, just as God does, good or bad, even bullies. He tells us that we should ‘show love’, ‘do good’, ‘bless’ and ‘pray’ for our enemies, even bullies.

We read the story of what David did about his bully. King Saul tried to have David killed and actually chased him all over the country trying to kill him yet when David had the opportunity to kill Saul and easily put an end to his bullying, twice, David showed love instead. David put his faith in God that he would take care of the evil things that Saul was doing. He told Saul that God would punish him for his evil but he would never harm him and even when presented with the opportunity to kill him twice he stuck to his word. David’s love and kindness ended up “taking down” his bully to leave him alone, Saul even had some kind things to say about David.

We also talked about how the actions that we see in a bully are only the fruit and we need to look at the root to see the possible cause for the bully’s actions. We learned that “hurting people, hurt people” and if we look to what may be causing the bully to be a bully, such as a broken home, fear, anger, bullied at home, etc. we can show them love and kindness and pray for them to maybe remove the root cause of the bully’s actions like David did with Saul (King Saul was afraid of David).

We said we would take a look at the bullies in our lives and bless them, show them love and pray for them and see if we can also “take down” our bullies with kindness and the love that God has for everyone.

Next week we will continue our series about bullies when we hear about how David dealt with another bully named Goliath.

Bible Verse: Matthew 5:43-47

43 “You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ 44 But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, 45 that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. 46 If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? 47 And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that?”

Bible Verse: Luke: 6:27-28

27 “But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, 28 bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.

Bible Verse: 1 Samuel 26:7-11

7 So David and Abishai went to the army by night, and there was Saul, lying asleep inside the camp with his spear stuck in the ground near his head. Abner and the soldiers were lying around him. 8 Abishai said to David, “Today God has delivered your enemy into your hands. Now let me pin him to the ground with one thrust of the spear; I won’t strike him twice.” 9 But David said to Abishai, “Don’t destroy him! Who can lay a hand on the Lord’s anointed and be guiltless? 10 As surely as the Lord lives,” he said, “the Lord himself will strike him, or his time will come and he will die, or he will go into battle and perish. 11 But the Lord forbid that I should lay a hand on the Lord’s anointed. Now get the spear and water jug that are near his head, and let’s go.”

Bible Verse: 1 Samuel 26:25

25 Then Saul said to David, “May you be blessed, David my son; you will do great things and surely triumph.” So David went on his way, and Saul returned home.

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Chris & Michelle