Grandma's favorite read aloud Bible stories ©:
David and Goliath part 2
I Samual 17:20- 18:4

When David arrived, both armies were running out shouting a battle cry as they faced off in the valley. There they were army against army facing each other. David left his food and ran down to the army and found his brothers and greeted them. As he talked with his brothers, here came the Giant from the city of Gath --- Goliath! Goliath hollered again to the Israelites the same words he's been saying every day. David heard those words and was shocked as he watched the Israelite army run away-- afraid! The soldiers told David, "Have you seen this man? When he came to challenge us, we were told that the man who kills him, will be given lots of money by the King and he will even allow him to marry his own daughter so he will become part of the King's family AND give them his own house (and he won't even have to pay any taxes!!)". David asked, "What will be done for the man who kills this Philistine and removes the bad reputation this giant is giving to Israel!? Who IS this ungodly man that he should dare to challenge the armies of the Living God!!?"

Now David's oldest brother, Eliab, got SO angry at David for asking this and said, "Why did you come down here?!" Who is taking care of the few sheep father has left?! I know your pride and how disrespectful you are! You just came down here to see the battle!" David said, "What have I done NOW! Isn't there a good reason to fight this?" David asked everyone, but no one would agree! They were scaredy cats!! Soon, what David said was reported to King Saul and the King sent for David!

When David came into the presence of his King, he said, "Sire, no man should give up because of this giant! I will go and fight him!" King Saul said, "You are not able to go against the Philistine to fight him! You are too young and he has been a man of war for a long time!" But David told Saul how he had killed both the lion and the bear and said, "This ungodly Philistine will be just like one of them, because he has challenged the armies of the Living God! The Lord, who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine!!"

So, Saul clothed David with his own armor and put his helmet on his head and fastened his sword to the armor and said, "Go, and the Lord be with you". But, there was a problem. David tried to walk with that armor on to test it out because he has never worn any armor before. And David said to Saul, "I can't even walk in this!" So David took it all off. He then, picked up his wooden shepherd's staff and went to look around in the brook nearby. He chose 5 smooth stones and put them into his small, leather shepherd's bag. He also carried his sling made of a piece of leather with long strings attached….and went out…. To meet THE GIANT!

When Goliath saw this young, tanned, good looking teenager coming toward him with no armor and no sword, he was insulted!! He shouted, "Am I a just a dog that you come at me with sticks?" Then he cursed David in the name of his own gods and said, "Come on! I will feed you to the birds and wild animals!!" So, David, confident that the Lord God, the true God was on his side bravely said, "You think you are so brave, but you are coming to me with a sword and with a spear and with a javelin! But, I am coming to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel whom you have challenged! This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head off you. And this day I will give the bodies of the rest of your army to the birds and wild animals so that all the earth may know that there IS a God in Israel! All the people here will know that the Lord does not save with a sword and spear, <u>for the battle is the LORD'S</u> AND <u>He</u> will give you into our hands!"

When the Giant heard this, he got up and ran toward David and David ran toward <u>him</u>. David put his hand into his leather pouch and took out one smooth stone and carefully put it into his sling. He began to swing it around his head – round and round and round --- and then, taking aim, David let it go and the stone flew fast – REALLY fast, and it hit Goliath smack in the middle of his forehead and sank deep into his head!!! It was like a huge bullet! Goliath instantly fell down dead on the ground with a thud! Wow! Without a sword, David had killed Goliath! David ran over and stood over Goliath. He grabbed Goliath's own sword, pulled it out, held it up high, and let it drop on Goliath's neck and it cut off his head!

<u>Now</u>, everyone was SURE that the Giant was dead! The whole army of Israel jumped to their feet and shouted ---The Philistines RAN because now their champion was dead! The Israelites chased the Philistine army back to the entrance of the valley! Then, the Israelite army ran back to the Philistines' tents and grabbed all their stuff and took it back to their own camp. David even kept Goliath's armor for himself.

King Saul wanted proof that Goliath was really dead. So Abner, his Commander of the army, had David brought Goliath's head to show the King. (Yuk!) After that day, King Saul would not let David return home to tend sheep anymore. David got to live in the King's palace and his favorite part was not being the hero, but becoming best friends with the King's son, Jonathan. Jonathan and David remained best friends forever!