

## Look What Small Can Do

*Kevin & Amy Zook*

*When I am weak, then I am strong.  
II Corinthians 12:10*

### **Refrain**

**When there's a big, big job to do  
And you think that you're too small  
Square your shoulders and stand up tall  
Listen to God's voice when He calls**

**Walk in His light and trust in His might  
His strength will see you through  
When you think God can't use you  
Just look what small can do!  
Yeah, look what small can do!**

1. David was a shepherd boy out tending his flock  
When he heard a commotion below  
A mighty big giant was taunting his folks  
He heard God calling and decided to go

David had more than a sling and some stones  
So he didn't need to run and hide  
Big 'ole Goliath hit the ground with a thud  
David's God was bigger and on his side! [REFRAIN]

2. Jesus went up on the mountainside to pray  
But a big crowd of people came too  
Everyone got hungry but no food was in sight  
The disciples didn't know what they should do

Then a boy gave all his fish and his bread  
The people ate 'til they were satisfied  
When the boy gave Jesus all the food that he had  
His itty-bitty lunch was multiplied! [REFRAIN]

*(continued)*

3. Mary was a young girl who was special to God  
 She would be the mother of His Son  
 When the angel came to tell her, she was afraid  
 Why did God choose her to be the one?

But Mary obeyed and made a long trip  
 In Bethlehem a baby was born  
 Because Mary was faithful and trusted the Lord  
 The Savior came to earth on that first Christmas morn! [REFRAIN]

4. Mary, David, and the boy were just like you  
 They had nothing special inside  
 Except that they were willing to trust and obey  
 And offer God all of their small lives

The world can be a noisy, busy, scary place  
 But God has some important work for you  
 Don't run from the task, accomplish all that He asks  
 And He'll be right beside you in all you do! [REFRAIN, then to BRIDGE]

**Bridge before final Refrain**

Maybe your neighbor is sick in bed  
 There are weeds to be pulled and a dog to be fed  
 What are you waiting for? You can do it!  
 Roll up your sleeves and get right to it!

**Final Refrain**

**When there's a big, big job to do  
 And you think that you're too small  
 Square your shoulders and stand up tall  
 Listen to God's voice when He calls**

**Walk in His light and trust in His might  
 His strength will see you through  
 When you think God can't use you  
 Just look what small can do!  
 Yeah, look what small can do!  
 Yeah look what small can do!  
 [whisper] Look what small can do! Yeah!**

## Look What Small Can Do

### Teaching Resources

#### Background

God rarely uses strong, capable, perfect people to accomplish His purposes. The Biblical narrative is full of instances where God chooses weak, imperfect, limited, sinful people to achieve great goals for His glory. When God uses imperfect people, they have to depend upon His strength rather than their own abilities, so that when big things happen there can be no doubt that they happened because of God's power and might.

We read of the great “heroes” of the Bible (e.g., David, Samson, Joshua, Moses, Ruth, Mary, Peter) and often forget that they were weak, flawed, sinful, ordinary people just like us. It can be especially daunting for children to hear these stories of great accomplishment because they are so young and small, and the Bible characters are so much older and larger than life. How can children possibly expect to be used by God to do anything significant like Moses, Joshua, or David? They were special – right?

Wrong! They were only special because they submitted to God's call, trusted Him, and allowed His strength to flow through them. All of us – young children included – can be used by God to accomplish His will on earth, regardless of how big or small the task may seem, when we trust and obey. We simply need to be willing to allow God to use us, to bring the “little” we have so that He can multiply it and bring about results we cannot not even imagine were possible.

“Look What Small Can Do” communicates this truth to children by focusing on the “big” jobs God accomplished through David (slaying Goliath), the small boy and his lunch (feeding thousands), and teenage Mary (giving birth to God's Son, Jesus). Then the song shifts the focus to us. We are not exempt from being used by God! What might be some “big” jobs God is calling us to do? As Paul reminds us in II Corinthians 12:10, when we are weak, we are actually strong, because God can then work His will through us – adults and children alike.

Look around! What needs to be done? Listen carefully. Is God calling you to do it? Do you think you are too weak or too small for the task? Well “walk in His light and trust in His might,” “square your shoulders,” get to work and then just “look what small can do!”

### **Preparing Activities**

1. This is a long song! You could easily introduce the song to children over several days or weeks by focusing on one verse at a time. For each of the first three verses, Read or tell (with age-appropriate texts and visuals) the stories of David and Goliath, the feeding of the five thousand, and Mary:

- David and Goliath – I Samuel 17
- A boy's five loaves and two fishes – John 6:1-14
- Mary and the birth of Jesus – Luke 1:26-38, 2:1-20

2. Questions for each story:

- What was the “big job?”
- In what ways is the person “small” for the job?
- How did the person “hear God’s voice” calling him/her to the job?
- What emotions do you think the person felt as he/she began the job?
- What emotions do you think the person felt as he/she completed the job?
- How did God use the person despite his/her “smallness?”
- How do we know that it was God’s strength that completed the job?

3. Have the children draw their own visual representations for each story or create a large wall mural that depicts each story.

### **Extending Activities**

1. Using the song’s fourth verse and bridge as a springboard, challenge children to identify a “need” in their family, neighborhood, church, circle of friends, etc. that might seem like a “big” or impossible job for them to do. Help the children identify specific actions they could take to address the need. Pray with them, asking God to give them strength and courage to take action. Have the children report back on their progress and help them see how God “multiplies” the effects of their “small” efforts.

2. As a variation on the preceding activity, help the children identify a “big” job that they could tackle as a group. Pray, act, and watch how God multiplies the group’s efforts.

3. For both of the preceding activities, encourage children to keep a journal where they describe the jobs God calls them to do, the actions they take, the outcomes, and how God multiplies their “small.” These written records eventually provide powerful evidence to children (and adults) of God’s faithfulness when they listen to His call and trust Him for the strength they need.

4. How do we “listen for” and “hear” God’s voice calling us to take action to meet a need or carry out His will? Do we actually hear an audible voice? Can God speak to us through others? How does God speak to us through His Word, the Bible? The issue of “hearing God’s voice” is complex. Different people hear God speaking to them in different ways. Mary was visited by an angel. Moses heard God speaking through a burning bush. For further thoughts on this topic, please see my comments and ideas for the song, “God is Near.”

5. Read or paraphrase the story of Moses (Exodus 3 and 4). What was the job God had for Moses? How did God speak to Moses? Did Moses think he was the right person for the job? What excuses did Moses give for not wanting to do the job? How did God overcome those excuses? How did God help Moses accomplish the task?

### **Related Scripture**

- I Corinthians 1:26-29
- Hebrews 4:15-16
- Romans 8:26-27
- Ephesians 6:10-11
- Philippians 4:13
- Isaiah 40:28-31
- Isaiah 41:9-10
- Matthew 11:28-30
- Exodus 15:1-4
- Nehemiah 8:10
- Psalm 46:1-3