

When Others Call You Names

Have you ever heard or recited this little poem?

"Sticks and stones
Will break my bones,
But names will never hurt me."

But being called names does hurt. What do you do when someone calls you names?

In this Bible story a man named Shimei (SHIM-ee-eye) called King David bad names and even threw stones at him. Read 2 Samuel 16:5–14 and decide whether these statements are true or false:

1. David told his soldiers to kill Shimei.
2. David told his friends to pay no attention to Shimei.
3. David said that God would hear and repay David with good for all the bad things Shimei had said.
4. David called Shimei names and chased him away.

Now decide what you will do the next time someone calls you names.

Live It!



2 Samuel 16:5–14