



NEW HEART BEAT DEVOTIONS

"Davey and Goliath's Snowboard Christmas".

While I was a child, I use to watch "Davey and Goliath" every Sunday morning before church. I recently found it through an "On Demand" cable channel. I began to enjoy watching the episodes over again. Here is a little history I found about the series.

"Davey and Goliath" was a clay-animated children's Christian television series, whose characters were created by Art Clokey, Ruth Clokey, and Dick Sutcliffe. It was produced by the United Lutheran Church in America. Art Clokey had previously made the clay-animation series [Gumby](#) .

Clay-animation used clay figures that were moved a little and a single picture was taken. Then they were moved again and another picture was taken. When these pictures or frames were then shown in fast motion, it made the clay image seem to be a motion picture. "Shooting a 30-minute movie would therefore require making approximately 21,600 stops to change the figures for the frames"¹ Then voices, music and sound effects were added.

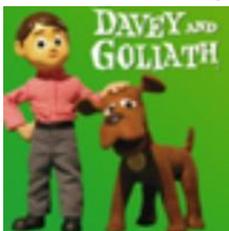
"Davey and Goliath" premiered in syndication on February 25, 1961 and lasted to 1965. "By 1964, the show was airing in over 90% of U.S. television markets."² The series then resumed with some new characters in 1971 and continued until 1973. There were 66 episodes and 7 specials. After an almost 30-year hiatus, "Davey and Goliath" were next seen as part of a [Mountain Dew commercial](#) (click to watch) in 2001, Proceeds from the commercial went towards producing the final special in 2014 called "[Davey and Goliath's Snowboard Christmas](#)". (click to watch).

Each episode, aimed at a youth audience, featured the adventures of Davey Hansen and his "talking" dog Goliath as they learn the love of God through everyday occurrences. "It dealt with issues such as respect for authority, sharing, prejudice, racism, death, religious intolerance and vandalism."³ Many of the episodes also included Davey's parents John and Elaine, his sister Sally, as well as several friends.

For the first time, I watched the above 2014 one-hour Snowboard Christmas special. It had much improved graphics, modern backgrounds, lively music, and a lot of what I would call younger entertainment. Besides all the snowboarding, the main part of the special had David and two of his new friends (Sam, a Jewish boy, and Yasmeen, a Muslim girl) caught by snow in a cave. Each prayed to their God to be rescued. Then Sam shared what they would be doing this season and Yasmeen also shared. Davey said that they would be exchanging gifts because it was the day that Jesus was born. At the end, Goliath, with the help of a bear and an owl, got the parents to rescue them just in time.

Nice story but for a church organization produced Christmas special, it had no Christmas music, nor Christ's emphasis. They did show a manger set in Davey's house and David did say it was Jesus's birthday. Davey had the opportunity to say who and why Jesus came but the producer did not have in the production. It was explained what and why his friends believed. The takeaway from this special was that we are to be tolerant of what others believe because their religion is just as right as ours.

As Christians, we believe that Jesus, the Son of God, came to seek and save those that are lost. We believe that only in Jesus do we have eternal life. Then why do we keep quiet about sharing this free gift to others? "For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior which is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:11



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"And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world." I John 4:14

"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:12

The Reason for Jesus is for all Seasons.

¹en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clay_animation ^{2,3}en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Davey_and_Goliath

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