

Fellowship Kids

1st-3rd Grade Lesson Plan

Sunday, May 17

UNIT 16 | SESSION 1

DANIEL OBEYED GOD

DANIEL 1

MAIN POINT / CHRIST CONNECTION: Daniel was faithful to obey God, even in the small matters like eating the correct foods. Jesus was faithful to obey God in every single way. When we trust in Jesus as Savior, God credits us with the perfect life Jesus lived.

CATECHISM QUESTION : Q. What does it mean to believe in Christ? A. To trust in Christ alone for salvation. (*John 14:6; Acts 4:12; 1 Tim. 2:5; 1 John 5:11-12*)

MEMORY VERSE of the Month: 1 CORINTHIANS 10:31 - "So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." (ESV)

Preparation

Lesson Context

This Unit: The people were far away from the land God had given them, but they were not far from God. The Lord was with His people even while they were in exile. He watched over them and promised that they would one day return to the land. When they did, they would return to Him as well.

Volunteer Huddle | 8:45 a.m.

Meet in the Threes classroom (first floor) for prayer and important info for this Sunday.

Prep Room | 8:50 a.m.

- Put out activity pages (in Activity Box) and markers (in Teacher Box) on desks.
- If you'd like, put music on the Spotify app on the Roku TV.

- You can push tables back or to the sides to make space in the center or front of the room for activities.

Fellowship Time | 9:00 - 9:15 am

FELLOWSHIP TIME

Greet families at the door as they arrive. Allow children time to engage with one another and catch up. Use this time to get to know your students and hear about their week. What was a good part/hard part or “yay duck”/“yuck duck” of their week? If you’d like a prompting question for discussion, you can use the one below:

SAY: *What is your favorite food to eat? Why?*

ACTIVITY PAGE

Lead children to choose a desk and give them **an Activity Page and markers** (in Activity Box). You can also give them blank paper to draw or some playdough (in Teacher Box) if you prefer.

SAY: *Today, we’ll see how Daniel obeyed God by choosing to eat food that honored Him.*

REVIEW CLASSROOM RULES

Post the **Rules Poster** (in Activity Box) somewhere in the room.

Group Activity | 9:10/9:15 am

BARNYARD BOOGIE

Gather kids together and instruct them to close their eyes. Explain that you are going to name an animal for kids to imitate, such as a chicken, cow, or pig. Share how you will tap one kid on the shoulder. The kid you tapped, however, must act like a different animal of his or her choosing, such as a dog. When you count to three, everyone will open their eyes and begin to act like the animal you chose, except the kid you tapped.

He or she will act like a different animal. Explain that the first kid to spot which kid is acting differently wins that round. Continue playing as time allows.

SAY *Was it hard to spot who was acting differently? [Allow responses.] God calls us to obey Him and that often means acting differently than others around us. Today, we will learn how Daniel chose to be different from those around him. He obeyed God even when it was difficult. Daniel was faithful to God, and he was blessed with wisdom.*

Lesson | 9:20 am

Ask students to return to their desks and pass out **Bibles** (in Teacher Box). Let them know of your expectations during the lesson: listening to the teacher, sitting quietly with hands and feet to themselves, etc.

1. Introduce the Lesson + Pray

SAY *The book of Daniel was written after the Kingdom of Judah was destroyed by Babylon. Because the people of Judah continued to sin, God allowed the nation of Babylon to destroy Jerusalem and take the people captive to Babylon. Daniel was one of the people who was taken to Babylon. Today, we'll see how even though Daniel was in a new place and captured to be a servant, he chose to trust God and obey Him. Through our story, we'll learn how Daniel was faithful to God, and he was blessed with wisdom. Let's pray.*

2. Using Bibles

SAY: *Today, we will be in the book of DANIEL. Do you think DANIEL is in the Old or New Testament? It's in the Old Testament and is one of the Major Prophets. Daniel wrote the book and it documents much of his life during captivity in Babylon.*

3. Tell the Bible Story

Open your **Bible** to **DANIEL 1** and ask children to turn in their Bibles.

DANIEL OBEYED GOD

When Jehoiakim was king of Judah—before Judah was destroyed—God allowed King Nebuchadnezzar (neb yoo kad NEZ uhr) to attack Jerusalem and win. He brought back some of the treasures from the temple and some of the strongest and smartest young men from the royal and noble families to be servants in his palace.

The king planned for these young men to be trained in the ways of Babylon and learn its language. He wanted them to become part of his nation. The young men were to be trained for three years, and then they would serve the king. One of the young men who was captured and brought to Babylon was named Daniel.

Daniel knew that the food the king had provided him to eat went against God’s commandment. He knew he would disobey God’s law if he ate the king’s food. So, Daniel asked permission from the king’s chief servant to eat something else. He asked if he and his friends could eat vegetables and water.

The chief servant liked Daniel, but he was afraid of the king. “What if he sees you looking less healthy than the other young men?” the chief servant said. “The king might punish me!”

Daniel said, “Please, test us for ten days. Let me and my friends eat vegetables and drink water, so that we do not disobey the law of our God. Then examine how we look compared to the other young men and decide based on what you see.” The guard agreed to this test.

At the end of ten days, Daniel and his friends who ate vegetables and drank water were better and healthier than all the other young men. So, the guard continued to allow them to eat only what God had commanded.

God rewarded these young men for their obedience. He gave them knowledge and understanding in every kind of writing. He also gave Daniel the ability to understand visions and dreams. When the king saw all the young men, he found Daniel and his friends to be far superior to the rest and appointed them as his attendants. In every matter that the king consulted these men about, he found them ten times better than all the other advisors in his kingdom.

4. Christ Connection

SAY: *Daniel was faithful to obey God, even in the small matters like eating the correct foods. Jesus was faithful to obey God in every single way. When we trust in Jesus as Savior, God credits us with the perfect life Jesus lived.*

Review & Video | 9:30 am

Bible Story Video

If you'd like, watch the **Bible lesson video** on the YouTube app on the TV (*YouTube account should be Fellowship Kids* (switch accounts on the top of the left sidebar if not) > go to Library on the left side bar > Choose Playlists on the top > choose your classroom).

Review the Bible Story

Invite children to **open their Bibles to DANIEL 1:8-16.**

SAY - Let's review a section of scripture from our Bible lesson today. Please turn to **DANIEL 1:8-16. Have a volunteer read the passage.**

- 1. Why did Daniel refuse to eat the king's food? Look at Daniel 1:8**
 - a. Daniel knew that eating this food would not honor God because it went against God's law. Daniel loved God and wanted to obey Him.*
- 2. What happened to Daniel and his friends after the ten days? Look at Daniel 1:15-17.**
 - a. At the end of the test, Daniel and his friends looked healthier and stronger than all the other young men who ate the king's food! Daniel was faithful to God, and he was blessed with wisdom.*
- 3. Have you ever felt it hard to obey God's commands if everyone else is doing something different?**
- 4. Who was the one person who perfectly followed all of God's commands, even if he was the only one? (Jesus!)**

Pray

Ask students if they have any **prayer requests**. Pray about what you learned in the lesson and for any requests.

Catechism Question

Use the **Catechism Question** posters to review previous questions and learn the new one for this week (in Activity Box).

SAY: Today we will learn a new catechism question:

Q. What does it mean to believe in Christ?

A. To trust in Christ alone for salvation.

Let's review all of the catechism questions again:

Q) What kind of life did Christ live on earth?

A) A life of perfect obedience to the Law of God

Q. What does Christ do for His people?

A. He does the work of a prophet, a priest, and a king.

Q. What does it mean to believe in Christ?

A. To trust in Christ alone for salvation.

Memory Verse | 9:40 am

Show the **memory verse poster** (in Activity Box). Open your Bible to **1 CORINTHIANS 10:31** and lead the kids to read the verses together. You can also write the verse on the whiteboard so that children can see it more clearly.

**“So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”
- 1 CORINTHIANS 10:31**

MEMORY VERSE THEATER

Invite the class to say the memory verse in lots of fun ways. Some suggestions: loud, soft, Texan accent, high-pitched, low/deep, eyes closed, slow, fast, holding your nose, singing, holding your tongue, etc. Get creative and come up with your own fun ways to learn the memory verse.

SAY: Daniel and his friends glorified God by loving and obeying God more than anything. We can follow their example, with the help of the Holy Spirit, and live in ways that glorify God.

Extra Activity

TEST ME

Instruct kids to spread out around the room. Tell the kids that you are going to give them a series of tests. Emphasize that the tests are just for fun. Provide each kid with a piece of paper and a pencil. Direct kids to do the following tests, encouraging them to try their best.

- Complete 20 jumping jacks in 25 seconds
- Write the ABCs backward
- Stand on one foot for 30 seconds
- Write the names of 5 countries in 15 seconds
- Run in place for 60 seconds

SAY: *How do you think you did? [Allow responses.] It can be challenging to perform tests well. In our story today, we learned how Daniel asked to be tested as a way to obey God and remain faithful to God.*

Dismissal | 9:50 am

As parents arrive,

- Match the 4 digit code on the parent's tag to the child's tag
- Check out the child on the tablet by clicking the check box to the left of their name on the roster.
- **Give feedback!** Tell parents how the student did that morning.

Clean Up

- Wipe down tables if any messes were made with activities. [Magic eraser sponges can erase markings on desks.]
- Put teacher and activity items back in the Activity Box or Teacher Box.
- Place the TV remote in the white holder on the dry erase board.
- Return the small Activity Box, class tablet, and your lanyards to the check-in desk.