

Fellowship Kids

4th-5th Grade Lesson Plan

Sunday, May 31

UNIT 16 | SESSION 3

DANIEL IN THE LION'S DEN

DANIEL 6

MAIN POINT / CHRIST CONNECTION: Daniel continued to trust God, even though it meant he might be thrown into the lions' den. Jesus was faithful to follow God's plan, even though it meant He would die on the cross for sinners.

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: *Have you ever seen a lion at the zoo or an animal sanctuary? How would you feel if you came face to face with a lion?*

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: *In today’s story, we’ll learn how God protected Daniel from scary lions and how Daniel trusted God.*

REVIEW CLASSROOM RULES

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

Group Activity | 9:10/9:15 am

LION’S DEN ESCAPE

Place the **images of lions** (in Activity Box) randomly on the floor throughout the room. Blindfold a participant (in Activity Box). The group can give verbal instructions to help the blindfolded person navigate safely and

guide them through the 'lion's den,' avoiding the lion images. Discuss how God's guidance helps us navigate the challenges in our lives.

SAY *Today, we'll see how Daniel was thrown into a lions' den because he chose to remain faithful to God. Even more so, we'll see how God remained faithful to Daniel and shut the lions' mouths. Daniel trusted God, and God protected him.*

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 *Today, we will be hearing an amazing story from the book of Daniel about God's power to rescue His people. If you brought your Bible, will you please take it out? As Daniel grew older, he remained in the foreign country of Babylon. Today, we'll see how Daniel refused to stop praying to God and was thrown into a lions' den. But Daniel trusted God, and God protected him. Let's pray.*

2. Using Bibles

SAY: *Today, we will again be in the book of DANIEL. You can turn in your Bibles to DANIEL 6. Let's hear this true story from God's Word.*

3. Tell the Bible Story

Open your **Bible** to **DANIEL 6** and ask children to turn in their Bibles.

DANIEL IN THE LION'S DEN



King Nebuchadnezzar, who brought Daniel and his friends from Judah to Babylon, had died. The new king, King Darius, appointed Daniel as one of three main leaders over the whole kingdom. King Darius was especially impressed with Daniel and planned to put him in charge of the whole kingdom!

The other leaders were jealous of Daniel. They wanted to find something Daniel was doing wrong so they could tell King Darius. But Daniel was an honorable man. He lived according to God's laws and was trustworthy. The leaders said, "We will never find any charge against Daniel unless we discover something that goes against his God."

They went to King Darius and convinced him to make a new law that would last 30 days. The law said that if anyone prayed to any god or man except the king, they would be thrown into the lions' den. King Darius signed the new law so that it was a permanent law and could not be changed.

When Daniel learned of this new law, he went upstairs to his house. He went to his window that looked toward Jerusalem, got down on his knees, and prayed and gave thanks to God, just as he had done three times a day, every day.

The other leaders went as a group and found Daniel praying to God, so they approached King Darius and told him that Daniel had broken the law.

When King Darius heard this, he was very displeased. He was sorry he had made the law, but he could not undo it or take it back! So, the king gave the order, and the leaders brought Daniel and threw him into the lions' den.

King Darius said, "May your God, whom you serve always, save you!" The lions' den was sealed with a large stone.

King Darius was worried about Daniel all night long. As soon as the sun came up, Darius hurried to the lions' den. He cried out, "Daniel, servant of the living God! Has your God been able to rescue you from the lions?"

Daniel replied, "May the king live forever. My God sent his angel and shut the mouths of the lions. They haven't harmed me for I was found innocent before God."

The king was overjoyed. When Daniel was brought up from the lions' den, he was completely unharmed. King Darius issued a decree: "Everyone in my kingdom must tremble and fear the God of Daniel. He is the living God! He rescues and delivers!"

4. Christ Connection

SAY: *Daniel continued to trust God, even though it meant he might be thrown into the lions' den. Jesus was faithful to follow God's plan, even though it meant He would die on the cross for sinners.*

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 6:19-23.**

SAY - Let's review a section of scripture from our Bible lesson today. Please turn to **DANIEL 6:19-23** *Have a volunteer read the passage.*

1. **How does the king describe Daniel? How does Daniel serve God?**
 - a. *The king says that Daniel is a servant of the living God and Daniel serves this God continually*
2. **What does Daniel say that God did?**
 - a. *God sent his angel to shut the mouths of the lions and delivered him from all harm.*
3. **Why does it say that no harm was found on him in verse 23?**
 - a. *Because Daniel trusted in his God. Daniel loved God and served Him no matter what. Daniel's life was a witness to how God is worthy to be trusted and followed.*
4. **Have a volunteer read verses 25-27. What was the result of all of this? How does the king describe God?**
 - a. *The result was that a message was sent to all nations that people should fear the God of Daniel. The king describes God as the living God, who endures forever, and whose kingdom will never be destroyed. God delivers and rescues, works signs and wonders, and saved Daniel from the lions.*

5. How can you trust God this week like Daniel? If you feel worried or anxious, is it something that you can bring to the living God?

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 review our 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**

BIBLE VERSE SHOWDOWN

Have two kids stand back to back, then count to 3 and have them turn and face each other and say the verse. The kid who says the verse the fastest is the winner.

SAY: *God deserves all glory for who He is and what he has done to save us from sin. We can glorify God through our obedience, which shows that we love God.*

Extra Activity

LION'S ROAR

Have one student stand in front of the group, facing away from them. The leader will silently select another participant from the group to "roar" like a lion. The student facing away must listen carefully to the "roar" and then turn around and try to guess who made the sound. Rotate players so that everyone gets a chance to "roar" and guess.

SAY: *God sent His angel to shut the lions' mouths, and they didn't hurt Daniel. Daniel also said that he was found innocent before God. Daniel was innocent because he trusted God. We are only found innocent before God when we trust in Jesus. Like God saved Daniel from the lions, Jesus saves believers from sin and death.*

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.