



At-A-Glance: Ages 10-12
Prophets & Promises Part 2: Elijah - Malachi
Unit 9, Lesson 45

Daniel and the Lions' Den

Lesson Aim: To live a life of prayer in a trusting relationship with God.

THE WELCOME

MEET & GREET: What do you think is the scariest wild animal?

GAME: Lions' Den Freeze Tag

THE WORSHIP THE GOD WHO IS LORD OF ALL

Read Worship Scripture: Daniel 7:13-14.

Sing songs and worship God. Bless and collect the offering.

Perform The Love Sub script or read storybook.

THE WORD GOD RESCUES DANIEL

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: God was with Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the furnace.

Point to Daniel (580 B.C.). Point to Ancient Babylon. **Daniel was a captive in Babylon who risked his life by worshiping the one true God. He was greatly respected and served four different Babylonian kings. His enemies were jealous, so they tricked King Darius into making a law. For 30 days, anyone who prayed to a god or to anyone other than King Darius would be thrown into the lions' den.** Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Daniel 6:10, 14-16, 19-23, 26-27; 9:4, 5, 16a. Find and Highlight Key Verse First: Daniel 6:10. Pray. **Daniel made a CHOICE to pray to the one true God.** Read Daniel 6:10, 14-16, 19-23. **King Darius made a new decree stating the WARNING for everyone to worship God and a PROMISE about God's kingdom.** Read Daniel 6:26-27. **In Daniel's prayers, he praised God, made his requests, and admitted his sin.** Read Daniel 9:4, 5, 16a.

THE WAY PRAY LIKE DANIEL PRAYED

With the new "No Prayer" law in place, what **CHOICE** did Daniel make? (To pray anyway.) What choice do you think you would have made? After seeing that God protected Daniel, King Darius made a decree that was a **WARNING** for everyone to respect Daniel's God. What was the **PROMISE** about God's kingdom? (It would never end.) How might knowing that help you put prayer time first?

In some countries today, believers are not allowed to worship together or to talk about God. Other countries have laws that only allow praying in certain places. Can those laws stop us from praying silently in our hearts? What kinds of things besides laws can cause you to break your habit of daily prayer? (Forgetfulness, being busy, being tired, etc.) Let's see what we can learn from Daniel and each other about building a strong habit of prayer. When, where, and how did Daniel pray? (Three times each day in his room on his knees.) When, where, and how do you like to pray? What do you think would be the best time, place, and way for you to pray alone each day? How do you think praying three times a day brings us closer to God? How do you think prayer helps us trust God more?

CHRIST CONNECTION:

In his prayers, Daniel praised God, requested what he needed, and admitted his sin. 600 years later, Jesus taught us a prayer with the same three parts we can say daily. Raise your hand when you hear one of the parts. Reveal Matthew 6:9-13. Find It First. Highlight. Read. To remember the parts, think of the first three letters in the word **P.R.A.Y.** (P: Praise God., R: Request God's help., A: Admit your sins., Y: Yes! Close with "Amen!" which means "Yes!") Have children create hand motions.

It takes courage to pray, especially if you don't know others who pray. What do you pray about? We can pray the Lord's Prayer, pray by reading from Psalms, by saying a blessing at meals, or by using the P.R.A.Y. reminder. In your prayers, why do you think it's important to include a quiet moment when you listen for what God wants you to know about Him?

THE GOLDEN BOWL: Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: P.R.A.Y. magnet
- W³ BETWEEN THE LINES Journal Entry #45
- OFFERING OF ART: Angel shutting the lions' mouths when Daniel was in the lions' den
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

GOT TIME?

SNACK: Lion Snack

GAME: Let's P.R.A.Y.

CRAFT: P.R.A.Y. Plaque

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES: Praise Tag, Four Praise Corners

BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW