



At-A-Glance: Ages 8-9
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, or rule, 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. Check out these three parts of Daniel's prayer in Daniel 9.** 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 in the lions' den, King Darius made a decree that was a **WARNING** for everyone to respect Daniel's God. What was the **PROMISE** about God's kingdom that

King Darius told the people? (It would never end.) The kingdoms in Babylon would not last, but God's kingdom would last forever. How might knowing that help you put prayer time before other things?

In some countries today, believers are not allowed to worship together or to talk about God. Other countries 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?

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.

Do you have a favorite way to pray such as kneeling, sitting, or standing? There are many ways to pray. You can pray the Lord's Prayer, pray by reading verses from Psalms, by just being silent before God, or by saying a blessing at meals. You can pray using the P.R.A.Y. reminder. God always loves to hear you pray!

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

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: P.R.A.Y. magnet
- DAILY WAY CHALLENGE
- 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