

Lesson Four: Obey God No Matter What (Preschool)

Lesson Theme

God loves me very much. I will obey Him to show how much I love Him.

Bible Story - Daniel in the Lions' Den

Active Listening Activity

Before sharing the Bible story, teach the students four movements for them to do when they hear the matching words in the Bible story:

- 1) *king – pretend to put on a crown*
- 2) *God/Jehovah – point up*
- 3) *pray – fold hands together*
- 4) *lion – hold hands out like lion's paws*

Daniel 6 (Paraphrase)

Darius became the new king of Babylon and put Daniel in charge of the whole empire. All of the other officials became jealous of Daniel. They looked for ways to get Daniel in trouble, but could not find anything that Daniel had done that was wrong.

The officials knew that Daniel worshiped the God of the Hebrews, Jehovah. They decided to use this against him. They convinced King Darius to make a new law that said for 30 days no one could pray to any god or man except King Darius. Anyone who broke this law would be sentenced to death by being thrown into the den of lions.

Because the law of that empire was very strict, once King Darius signed this new law it could not be changed—not even by King Darius himself. When Daniel heard about the law, he went to his house, knelt down by an open window, and prayed to God. He knew that he was breaking King Darius' law, but he was obeying God just as he had always done before. He was more concerned about obeying God than the king.

The officials told King Darius what happened—how that Daniel had broken the new law. When Darius heard this, he became very sad, because Daniel was his friend. All day long, he tried to figure out a way to save Daniel. But, at the end of the day, King Darius had to carry obey the law and sentence Daniel to death in the lions' den.

As Daniel was being taken to the lions' den, Darius said, "I hope that your God will rescue you, Daniel!" The king left, and Daniel was cast into the den of lions. That night, the king could not sleep. Early the next morning, King Darius ran out to the lions' den and shouted, "Daniel, has your God been able to save you from the hungry lions?"

Daniel said, "My God sent His angel and shut the mouths' of the lions. They have not hurt me." This made the king very happy. He ordered that Daniel be taken up out of the lions' den and all the men who had tried to trap Daniel were thrown in. Then Darius wrote a new law that everyone in all the empire should worship the God of Daniel—Jehovah.

Review Questions

Who was in the story?

(Daniel, King Darius, people who wanted to hurt Daniel)

What did Daniel do that they thought was wrong?

(Prayed to God)

What happened to Daniel because he did this?

(Thrown into the lions' den)

Did Daniel get hurt? Why?

(No, because God shut the mouths of the lions)

What was your favorite part of the story?

Activities & Games

The Secret Animal Game (Introductory Activity)

What You Need:

- Scissors
- Secret Animal Game Cards (print out Activity Sheet 4.1 in either color or B&W)
- Enough cards for each student to have one.
- Be sure that every card has a match. You don't want a student to be isolated without a partner at the end of the game.

How to Play:

- Distribute Game Cards and ask kids to keep their animals a secret. Be sure everyone knows what sound the animal makes that is on their card.
- Explain that at your signal all students will make the sound their animals make and will walk around listening for others who are making the same animal sound.
- Signal the students to begin making their animal sounds—no talking allowed.
- Once everyone has found their partners, if time permits, repeat the activity.

Application:

- Ask the students to tell which one of the animals they heard was a wild animal.
- Explain that wild animals are part of today's Bible story.

Freeze Lion

What You Need:

- A strong back and good knees.
- Or another person to demonstrate how lions crawl.
- Lion Masks (if you want to do the Craft Project below)

How to Play:

- Show the children how to be a lion by crawling on the floor, using his hands as claws and making loud roars with his mouth.

- Play a “freeze” game.
- Choose one child (or a teacher’s assistant) to be Daniel and you play the part of the angel.
- Have the children move around the room pretending to be lions and roaring at Daniel.
- When the ‘lions’ get too close to Daniel, signal the ‘lions’ to freeze. Each child must stop and stay still until you say ‘unfreeze.’

Application:

- Let the game continue for a while. The ‘lions’ will soon learn that they have to not get too close to Daniel if they want to continue moving around the room.
- Talk to the children about how God used His angel to keep the mouth of the lions closed to keep Daniel safe. Explain that God’s angels are still working today to keep us safe too.

Craft Project: Lion Mask

What You Need:

- Stiff paper, scissors, elastic string, crayons, hole punch
- Print out a copy of Activity Sheet 4.5 for each child on stiff paper.



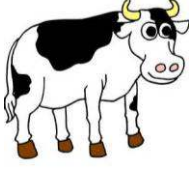


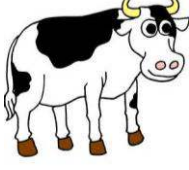












How to Make It:

- Have each child color their own picture of the lion’s head.
- Cut out the lion’s head (be sure to write the name on the back).
- Punch holes in each side and cut out the eye holes.
- Tie the elastic string through the punched holes to make a strap for the mask.



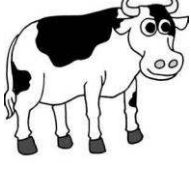


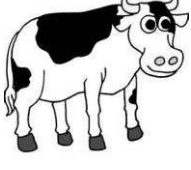












Activity Sheets/Coloring Pages

- 4.1 a – “The Secret Animal Game”
- 4.1 b – “The Secret Animal Game”
- 4.2 – Hebrews 13:6
- 4.3 – Daniel Relaxing
- 4.4 – Daniel Praying
- 4.5 – Lion Mask

Activity Sheet 4.1a - Daniel in the Lions' Den - "The Secret Animal Game"

 <p>Lion</p>	 <p>Pig</p>	 <p>Cow</p>
 <p>Lion</p>	 <p>Pig</p>	 <p>Cow</p>
 <p>Parrot</p>	 <p>Dog</p>	 <p>Cat</p>
 <p>Parrot</p>	 <p>Dog</p>	 <p>Cat</p>
 <p>Horse</p>	 <p>Sheep</p>	 <p>Chicken</p>
 <p>Horse</p>	 <p>Sheep</p>	 <p>Chicken</p>

Activity Sheet 4.1b - Daniel in the Lions' Den - "The Secret Animal Game"

 <p>Lion</p>	 <p>Pig</p>	 <p>Cow</p>
 <p>Lion</p>	 <p>Pig</p>	 <p>Cow</p>
 <p>Parrot</p>	 <p>Dog</p>	 <p>Cat</p>
 <p>Parrot</p>	 <p>Dog</p>	 <p>Cat</p>
 <p>Horse</p>	 <p>Sheep</p>	 <p>Chicken</p>
 <p>Horse</p>	 <p>Sheep</p>	 <p>Chicken</p>

Daniel in the Lions' Den



The Lord is my help—
I won't be afraid of
anything. How can
anyone harm me?

Hebrews 13:6



DANIEL IN THE LIONS' DEN

Daniel in the Lions Den





Lion MASK