

# Old Testament

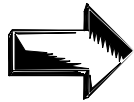
## Daniel & the lions Daniel 6:1-28

Younger Verse

God sent His One and Only Son. 1st John 4:9

Older Verse

This is how God showed His love among us: He sent His One and Only Son into the world that we might live through Him. 1st John 4:9



Teachers: This unit is designed to help your children understand some of the stories in the Old Testament.

PLEASE remember to always include the New Testament verses—this helps each child see how God’s ultimate plan was fulfilled in Christ!

Welcome Time

Have you ever been scared by a mean, growling dog or animal? Believe it or not, in today’s story, Daniel has to face a mean hungry lion! Listen to what happens.

Bible Story

***Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do NOT read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.***

A new man became king over Daniel and his friends. His name was King Darius. Darius liked Daniel and made him the greatest man in the whole kingdom.

But some other men hated Daniel because they wanted his position and power for themselves. These men said to themselves, “We must find something wrong with Daniel, to get rid of him.”

Daniel was a good man. He followed God and loved Him very much. The men tried and tried to catch Daniel doing something wrong, but they couldn’t find anything wrong in Daniel’s life.

At last they thought of a plan. They saw Daniel pray 3 times a day to God. They thought of a tricky way to get Daniel out of command for sure.

They said to King Darius, “O King, you are very great. We want you to make a new law, to honor you. The law is this: Nobody may pray to any god for 30 days. People may only ask the king for things that they want. And if anyone does pray to a god, he must be thrown into the den of lions.”

King Darius listened to the men. He thought, “That will make me like a god.” So he decided to make this a law.

You may need to explain that a den of lions is a place or room where lions were kept.

Lesson Goals

**Understand that sometimes we have to take a stand for Jesus  
Know that God is always taking care of us and helping us  
See how important it is to pray to God**

King Darius did not realize the men had laid a trap for Daniel.

Sure enough, the next day Daniel prayed to God just like he always did. He knew that God was the only true God. Daniel took time to pray 3 times a day.

The men watched Daniel. They looked through the window and saw him kneel to pray. Quickly they hurried off to tell the king.

They reminded the king of his law. Then they told him that Daniel had broken the law and prayed to God.

The king was very sad. He liked Daniel and did not want to throw him in the lion's den. But the king had put his name on the law and he could not change it.

So, he sent for Daniel. The king said, "Daniel, may God, whom you serve, save you."

Then they threw Daniel into the den of lions. They put a big stone across the door of the den.

The lions were hungry. They walked around Daniel. They sniffed at him, but God protected him. God sent an angel to close the mouths of all the lions.

The next morning, King Darius ran to the place where Daniel was. He shouted, "Daniel! Daniel! Did your God save you?" He listened for an answer.

Daniel replied, "Yes, an angel from God protected me."

They happily took Daniel out of the lion's den. The king made a new law. It said that Daniel's God is the living and true God. Everyone must serve Him.

God saved Daniel's life. Everyone knew for certain that God was real and true.

God made a plan to save us too. We weren't in a lion's den, but God knew that we would be in a very horrible place unless He helped us get to Heaven. So, God sent us His Son Jesus. Jesus died and came back to life 3 days later. He died for all the wrong things we have done. He did this so that if we believe and trust Him, we can go to Heaven and be with God forever. Jesus loves us that much!

**Learning Activities**

There are paper activities on the counter and other ideas in the teacher's packet. Choose things to help your kids learn the lesson.

**Memory Verse Activities**

Separate the group into two teams. Ask one team to say the verse. Have the other team say it next. Now, have fun by saying the verse with different accents etc.

**Prayer Time**

Give the group an example of something you personally prayed for and the answer that God gave. Then ask them for special requests.

**Snack Time/CleanUp**

Enjoy "lion" snacks and don't forget to clean up!

Planning for December 26th

Jonah  
Jonah 1-3

---

## Preschool Lesson For Daniel and the Lions

Daniel was a man who loved God very much. He prayed to God three times during the day. The king really liked Daniel and decided that he would be a very important person in the palace.

Some of the other men heard of the king's plans. They wanted to be important, so they tried to find something wrong that Daniel had done. Daniel was a good man and treated people fairly. He never cheated or lied to anyone.

The men could not find anything wrong with Daniel. Then, they remembered that he loved God very much and he prayed three times a day to God. Suddenly, they had a very sneaky, mean idea.

They told the king that everyone should only pray to the king and not to anyone else. The king thought that was a good idea. A law went out to pray only to the king.

Daniel heard the law, but he knew that God was the only real God and he must pray to Him only. So, Daniel went to his home and prayed by the window. The evil men were watching Daniel and saw him pray to God.

They ran back to the king and told him the news. The king was very sad because he liked Daniel. He tried to find a way to save Daniel, but nothing helped.

Daniel's punishment was to be put in a cave-type den where lions lived. These lions were very hungry and would eat up anything that came into the den.

The king talked to Daniel and told him that he hoped Daniel's God would rescue him. They threw Daniel into the den and put a big stone at the door.

The king was so upset. When he went back to the palace, he could not eat or sleep because he worried about Daniel.

What was happening to Daniel?? God sent an angel to shut all the lions' mouths. (Put your hand over your mouth) They could not eat Daniel. Daniel was safe the whole night.

The next morning, the king ran to check on Daniel. He yelled "Daniel, did your God rescue you?" Daniel said, "YES!"

They pulled Daniel out of the den and everyone saw that he did not even have a scratch on him.

They thanked God and knew that Daniel's God is the only real God. From then on, the king and his kingdom worshiped God only.

---

---

Hands-On Activities  
For  
Daniel and the Lions

Act out the story. Be sure to assign some people to play the part of the lions! Be sure to use sound effects for the lions.

Make a lion puppet or a lion face with a paper plate.

Take time to sit in a circle and pray with your kids. Show them how important it is to pray, just like Daniel did.

Instead of “Duck, Duck, Goose,” play “Daniel, Daniel, Lion.”

Decorate cupcakes or muffins with frosting. Add caramel popcorn to resemble the lion’s hair. Add round candy for the eyes and nose or use gel icing. Enjoy!

Watch the Veggie Tales Movie about Daniel.

---

---

## Lion's Den Rap

Now King Darius was a pretty good king,  
He wanted to do the truly right thing.  
But his royal advisors and officials that day,  
Did their very best to lead him astray.

O King Darius they cried, live forever,  
Issue a decree that can't be broken, never!  
Anyone who prays to anyone but you,  
For the next thirty days is guilty of this rule.

### *Chorus*

*'Cause the punishment should be, worse than being dead,  
To be thrown smack dab, into the lion's den.  
Chomp, chomp, grind, grind, chew, chew, gulp!  
Thrown smack dab into the lion's den. Yeah!*

Now Daniel was known as a man who always prayed,  
To the one and only God, he did so every day.  
But those rotten advisors and officials knew this well,  
So off to the king they went, couldn't wait to tell.

The king was quite sad, but nothing he could do,  
He must carry out the letter of the rule.  
So into the den he threw Daniel with a sigh,  
And waited for the news to come back that he had died.

### *Repeat chorus*

But at the light of dawn, the king woke up to find,  
God had saved his servant from sure death by a lion.  
'Cause Daniel was innocent in God's holy sight,  
He sent an angel to the lions to hold their jaws real tight.

Well the king was overjoyed, that Daniel was saved,  
He issued a new decree that could never be changed.  
People everywhere, all throughout the lands,  
Must worship the one true God, whose kingdom never, ever ends.

### *Repeat chorus*

*Kids Sunday School Place lyrics by Craig*

---