

# Old Testament

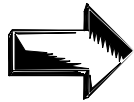
## Writing on a Wall Daniel 5:1-30

Younger Verse

We do not dare compare ourselves to others. 2nd Corinthians 10:12

Older Verse

We do not dare compare ourselves to others. 2nd Corinthians 10:12



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 watched a scary movie? In today's lesson something scary happens. Listen and see what it is!

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.***

We have learned about a mean king named Nebuchadnezzar. When he died, his son, Belshazzar, became king. He did not worship God. He worshiped false statues that were not God at all.

One day, the king had a big banquet. He invited many important people. There was lots of delicious food and things to drink.

Suddenly the king had an idea. He remembered that his father took some gold cups (goblets) from God's temple. He thought it would be wonderful for all his guests to drink from these expensive cups. He did not think about how these were special cups from God's church temple.

As the guests were drinking from the gold cups, they worshiped false gods that were not real.

Suddenly, something scary happened. Fingers of a human hand started writing on the wall in the banquet room.

When the king saw what was happening, he became very white and pale. His knees knocked together and he dropped to the floor.

Lesson Goals

**We must worship God only and follow Him  
Describe how God took care of Daniel and His people**

The king called special people to come and translate when the handwriting meant. They could not figure out what the message said. This made the king very scared and terrified.

Just then, the queen came into the banquet hall. She remembered that there was a special man who could interpret things like this. His name was Daniel.

They called Daniel to come. The king promised him lots of expensive things if he could interpret the words.

Daniel told the king that he did not want the things. He explained that the only true God gave his father Nebuchadnezzar the kingdom. Over time, his heart did not care about God. He loved the power of being the king. When Belshazzar became king, he was proud too. Instead of worshipping God, he worshipped false statues. Daniel shared that even at the banquet, he did not honor God.

He looked at the words. They said “Mene, Mene Tekel, Parsin.” Daniel told the king what each word meant. “Mene” meant that his days were numbered. That meant that he would die soon. “Tekel” meant that God had judged him and he had done wrong. “Parsin” meant that other people would come and rule the country.

Just as God said, that very night, the king died and another person, Darius, became king.

Daniel followed God and worshiped Him only. He was a messenger for God to help the people know about Him. We can be messengers too, helping people know about Jesus. Do you know what Jesus did for us? Jesus wanted us to go to Heaven. However, there was one big problem. We have done wrong. It is called sin. Our sin has separated us from God. God loved us and decided to make a way to get rid of our problem so that we can be in Heaven one day. Jesus paid the price for all our wrongs. Jesus died on the cross for all our sins. Then, 3 days later, Jesus came back to life. If we ask Him to forgive our wrongs and trust Him with our heart, Jesus will come into our hearts and stay with us forever. Then, one day we will go to Heaven and be with God forever. If you want to know how to trust Jesus, talk to us about it any time.

#### Learning Activities

Try activities that will help the kids apply the lesson to their lives.

#### Memory Verse Activities

Put butcher paper on the wall and have the kids help you write the verse on the paper (not on the wall like in the lesson!) Talk about how God does not want us to compare ourselves to others.

#### Prayer Time

Ask God to help us follow Him and trust Him. Ask God to help us stand up for what is right and not do wrong.

#### Snack Time/CleanUp

Bring snacks that you can eat with your hands!

Planning for Lesson 92  
Daniel and the Lions Den  
Daniel 6:1-28

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Preschool Lesson  
For  
Writing on the Wall

We have been talking about a man who loved God very much. His name was Daniel. Daniel lived in a country where the king and the people did not worship God. Daniel worshiped God and prayed to God every day.

One day, the king had a big party. He invited many people to come. They ate lots of delicious food. As they were drinking, the king remembered some beautiful golden cups that were in God's church temple. He asked his servants to get the cups and serve the drink to the people in them.

The king did not realize that he was not honoring God by doing this. In fact, God was not happy that the king took special cups out of the church.

Suddenly, a hand appeared in front of all the people. The hand wrote 4 words on the wall. The king gasped and was terrified of the hand. He asked his leaders to tell him what the words meant. No one could figure out the words.

Then, the queen told the king that Daniel could tell him what the words meant. The king asked Daniel to come.

When Daniel arrived, he saw the words on the wall. He also saw how the king and friends were drinking from God's cups. Daniel told the king what the words meant. He explained that God was upset because the king did not honor God. It was a very sad way to end the fun party.

God loves us. We should honor God by singing songs to Him and telling Him how much we love Him.

Let's sing "O How I Love Jesus."

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## Hands-On Activities For Writing on the Wall

To enforce the memory verse, bring two different kinds of fruit or candy. Ask the kids to share how they are the same (compare). Talk about how it is easy to look at someone and compare ourselves to them. Share how God does not want us to compare ourselves to others. He made us beautiful in His sight and He loves us always.

Fill plastic gloves (clear kind) with popcorn or small candy. Talk about what it must have been like to see a hand, writing on a wall.

This is a fun story to act out! Bring a glove to emphasize the “hand.”

Fill a plastic glove with water and tie. Freeze. Place in a bowl and add juice. The hand will float in the juice.

Try activities involving your hands today. You may want to finger paint, draw, create a craft, use play dough etc.

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