



Kindergarten-2nd

November 29-30, 2014

DATE

Daniel and the Lions' Den

LESSON TITLE

Daniel 6
Adventure Bible for Early Readers (pp. 1028-1030)

WHERE TO FIND IT

We can thank God in any situation!

MAIN POINT

schedule

Connect Time (20 minutes): Five minutes after the service begins, split kids into groups and begin their activity.

Large Group (25 minutes): Begin 20 minutes after the service starts. Model what it looks like to be engaged in large group.

Small Group (15 minutes): Keep kids in small groups until parents arrive. If you *all* have extra time at the end, you can review the video and songs together.

tips

Today kids will have a chance to give thanks that God can take care of them even in scary situations. Think about worries you have that you could turn into thankfulness (or supplement with thankfulness!). Be prepared to model that for kids.

check-in/out

Try to time today's small group so that parents arrive as kids are working on the coloring page.

large group heads up

Kids probably spent some time giving thanks this week. We're using the story of Daniel and the lions' den and Phil. 4:6 to talk about why we can give thanks *anytime!*



connect time

GOAL: *Connect Time is all about engaging kids in an activity that allows them to connect with each other right away while simultaneously piquing their curiosity for Large Group and preparing their minds for what they're going to hear.*

WHAT ARE YOU THANKFUL FOR?

- Use **Play Dough** to make one thing you're thankful for.
- Share it with the group (or with 3 people nearby, if you haven't broken into small groups yet).
- If you finish early, you can have kids make something else they're thankful for.
- Then ask kids about the best and worst parts of their weeks.

If you have extra time, remind them of your expectations for their behavior: (1) be kind, (2) listen when somebody speaks, and (3) follow the leader's instructions.



instructions

Goal: Kids will (1) recall the story of Daniel and (2) recognize that we can be thankful at any time, even when we're scared

Why? Learning to give thanks instead of being afraid is a constant battle, but one the Bible calls us to fight.

Tip: If you have a big group, choose ahead of time whether you want kids to use Play Dough again or paper for the small group activity; you don't have to let kids choose.

small group

REVIEW THE STORY

1. Tell me about Daniel. (See what kids can remember about his character.)
2. Why were some people jealous of Daniel?
3. What rule did some mean men make to get Daniel in trouble?
4. What was Daniel's punishment?
5. How did God save Daniel from the lions?
6. Why could Daniel say "thank you" to God, even when he had to spend the night with lions? (Repeat: God can help us, even when we're scared)

APPLICATION ACTIVITY

Have kids either use **Play Dough** or **markers and paper**. (Tell kids ahead of time they will NOT take Play Dough home!)

- Kids should sculpt or draw/write one thing that makes them afraid.
- Share and have kids say, "God, thanks that you can help us even when we're scared."
- Give kids a **coloring page** and work on it together until parents arrive.
- If kids are old enough/interested, show them how to write, "God, thanks that you can help us even when we're scared" on their coloring page.
- As kids color, ask them questions like:
 - What's your favorite part of the story? Why?
 - What surprised you?
 - What confused you?

***Pray with God, thanking him for being able to help us in any situation!**

Extra time? Sculpt things you're thankful for again (like during Connect Time).

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LARGE group

special notes

Today, we're focusing on learning to thank God instead of being fearful.

presenter tips

You'll have a chance to be honest with kids about your own fears. Consider ahead of time what God might want you to share.

script

**Click to play intro music.*

Hi everybody! Welcome to Kids' Club. It's great to see you. You know, a few days ago, you probably celebrated a holiday. You probably even got a day or two off from school. Maybe you even got to eat a meal with your family. What holiday did you guys celebrate? (Let kids say: Thanksgiving!)

That's right! Let's have a little fun. Everybody think of ONE word that comes to your head when you think of Thanksgiving. (Let kids think.) Now turn and tell a friend! (Let kids share.) Let's hear some of the words that you or your friend thought of. We're going to try to think of as many words as we can—the only rule is we can't say the same word twice (let kids share words like turkey, thankful, pilgrims, family, etc.). Awesome!

INTRO: THANKFULNESS

Well, there are lots of fun things about Thanksgiving, but you guys also mentioned the reason we celebrate: to remember to be thankful! What are some of the things you guys said you were thankful for during Connect Time? (Let 3-6 kids share.) Those things are great! And one of the things I'm thankful for is _____ (*model thankfulness for kids*).

Now, WHEN are you guys thankful? (Let kids respond. For young kids, you might have to give them ideas, like "when we have a good meal to eat" or "after a really fun day.") Yeah, those are great times. We can really be thankful anytime though, can't we? Actually, we've been reading a verse that has to do with thankfulness. Let's look at it again. As we read it, see if you can figure out when it says we should be thankful:

Phil. 4:6: Don't worry about anything. Instead, tell God about everything. Ask and pray. Give thanks to him.



script continued

Wow, this verse is saying that even when we're worried, we can give thanks! Let's think about some times when we're worried...hmmm. Maybe if the power goes out and the house is completely dark...or maybe during a thunderstorm...or maybe if we have to go to a new school or place and meet new people. I know I sometimes worry about _____ (*share one thing you worry about*). Now, li your head, I want you to think of one thing you worry about. When you have it, hold up one finger (let kids respond).

BEING THANKFUL WHEN WE'RE SCARED

Today, we're going to hear about a guy in the bible named Daniel. He was in a very *scary* situation. He actually had to spend the night with *lions*! Imagine spending the night with lions. What if you got thrown into THIS situation—how would you feel? (**Click to show slide of lions and roaring sounds**; then let kids share how they felt.) Yeah, I'd probably feel scared too.

Would anybody say “thank you, God!” if they found themselves in this room? (Refer to screen; let kids respond.) I think I'd say, “Help me, God!” But I don't think “thank you” would even come to mind! But remember our verse? (**Click to show verse again.**)

SLIDE: Phil. 4:6: Don't worry about anything. Instead, tell God about everything. Ask and pray. Give thanks to him.

That means *anytime* we're worried, we can tell God and ask him for help...but we can also thank him! Today, we're going to look at Daniel's story because it shows us WHY we can thank God, even when we're in scary situations.

DANIEL AND THE LIONS' DEN

So Daniel was a part of God's family. He loved God and talked to him every day. He also worked for a guy named King Nebuchadnezzar, who liked Daniel better than anybody else who worked for him.

But guess what!? That made the other people who worked for the king jealous. *They* wanted to be the king's favorite! So they came up with a plan to get Daniel in trouble. They watched him (make glasses with your hands) *all* the time, waiting for him to do something wrong. But all they saw him do was work hard and talk to God!

Suddenly, they had an idea! What if people weren't allowed to talk to God? If praying was against the rules, Daniel would get in trouble. So they convinced the king to make a rule that said people couldn't pray to anybody...except the king himself!

Well, Daniel refused to stop praying...and sure enough, he got in trouble. And for his punishment, he was thrown into a lions' den! That's pretty scary, but remember, the Bible tells us that whenever we feel worry, we can actually say “thank you” to God. Let's watch a video to find out what happened. As you watch, see if you can figure out why we can say “thank you” to God in *any* situation.

Video: KBS: Daniel



script continued

Oh my goodness, so what happened to Daniel in the lions' den? (Let kids say: He closed their mouths.) He sure did! So why didn't Daniel need to worry? (Let kids respond.) Yes! God took care of Daniel, even in the middle of the scariest situation, and he can take care of us too!

WE CAN THANK GOD IN ANY SITUATION

Now let's think of the kinds of things we worry about again. Maybe (refer to the one you shared), storms, darkness, being all alone, or going to a new school. And sometimes, we do have to face scary situations. But God can take care of us! He can help us to feel calm instead of fearful; he can help us to meet a new friend; he can do anything! So you know what we can say? We can say, "God, thank you that you can help me, even when I'm scared!"

Let's practice. I'm going to show you a picture of something that might remind you of something scary. When you see it, say "God, thanks that you can help me, even when I'm scared!"

(Click and show the following pictures. After each one, lead the kids in repeating "God, thanks that you can help me, even when I'm scared!")

- **Spider**
 - "God, thanks that you can help me, even when I'm scared!"
- **Dark room**
 - "God, thanks that you can help me, even when I'm scared!"
- **New school**
 - "God, thanks that you can help me, even when I'm scared!"
- **Hard homework**
 - "God, thanks that you can help me, even when I'm scared!"
- **Den of lions**
 - "God, thanks that you can help me, even when I'm scared!"
- **Blank slide: encourage them to think of one thing they worry about; it can be the one thing (hold up one finger) they thought of earlier.**
 - "God, thanks that you can help me, even when I'm scared!"

Great job, you guys! Now, remember, we can thank God when we're not scared too! One way to thank God for who he is, is by worshiping him and singing to him. So let's worship together right now!

DANIEL SONG

First we've got a cool, brand new music video about the story of Daniel. Let's check it out. Then we'll sing another song to remind us to be joyful and celebrate God's love

Music Video: Daniel Song

Music Video: Dance Laugh Love (dance moves on screen)

PRAY

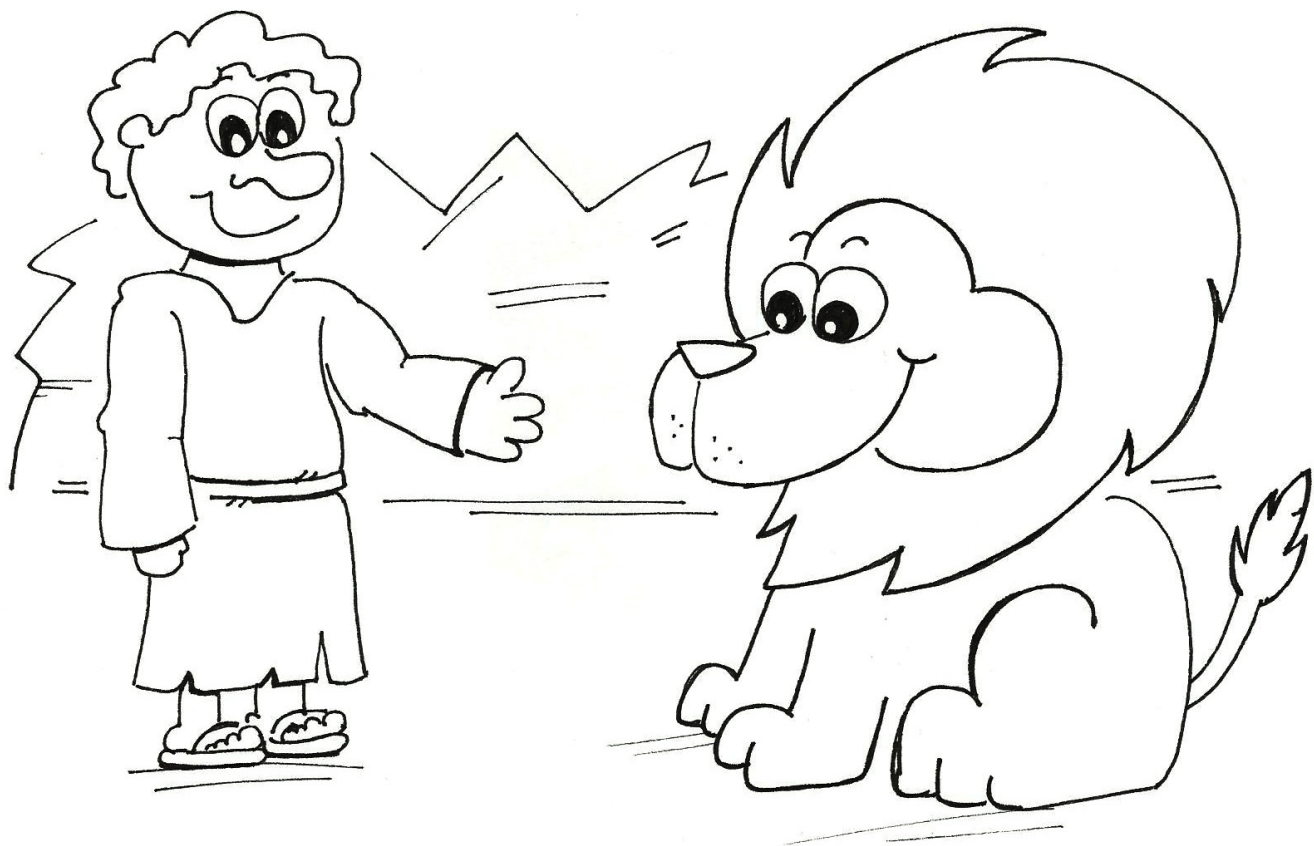
Ask somebody to come and thank God that he can help us in any situation!



script continued

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name



PREP needs



connect time supplies

Per group:
Play Dough

small group supplies

Per kid
Coloring page: Daniel and Lion

Per group
Markers
Adventure Bible for Early Readers (pp. 1028-1030)
Play Dough
Blank sheets of paper

large group supplies

Adventure Bible for Early Readers (pp. 1028-1030)

a/v needs

1. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
2. SLIDE: Philippians 4:6 Don't worry about anything. Instead, tell God about everything. Ask and pray. Give thanks to him.
3. Video: lions roaring: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mg6DTYc-hgs>
4. SLIDE: Philippians 4:6 (repeat slide)
5. Video: Daniel and the Lions Den (<http://vimeo.com/74731629>)
6. The following images, each on a separate slide:
 - a. Spider
 - b. Dark room
 - c. New school
 - d. Hard homework
 - e. Den of Lions
 - f. Blank Slide (white slide, please)
7. Music Video: Daniel
8. Music Video: Dance Laugh Love

connect questions

Tell me about Daniel.
Why can we thank God anytime?

parent page

Daily Talk Starts – separate doc