



3RD - 5TH

16.3
Daniel in the
Lions' Den



CONNECT TIME

Greet kids by name and play table games as kids arrive. Be sure to welcome any new families. Ask kids:

Have you ever seen a lion at the zoo or an animal sanctuary? How would you feel if you came face to face with a lion?



REVIEW GOD'S STORY

Start by 9:20/10:45

Review with kids what has been discussed in class over the past few months. Here's a synopsis:

Elijah confronted Ahab (Fire from heaven) * Elisha the prophet * Jonah * Daniel Obeyed God * Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego and the Fiery Furnace

START BY
9:30/10:55

REVIEW **3** BE, LISTEN, FOLLOW



LARGE GROUP

SMALL GROUP



BIBLE REVIEW

Distribute Bibles and guide kids to open them to Daniel 6. **The book of Daniel helps us understand what it looks like to remain faithful to God, even when living in a place opposed to God. The Babylonians wanted Daniel to be conformed to their culture, but God helped Daniel be faithful to Him.** Choose a volunteer to read aloud Daniel 6:10 or ask the kids to follow along as you read the verse aloud.

Why did Daniel continue to pray even though the king had made a law against it? Daniel trusted God and knew that obeying God was more important than being afraid of people. He was not ashamed of his faith and continued to worship the one true God.

What should we do when people mock us or dislike us because we follow Jesus? We can trust God and remain faithful to Him. God is with us and helps us follow Jesus even when it is difficult.



DISCUSSION

Will obeying God always be easy? Why not? God doesn't promise that obeying Him will be easy. Even Jesus, who obeyed God perfectly, faced persecution and death. The Bible says following God will cost us, but He is worth it. Believers have a secure future with Christ no matter what they face on this earth. (Option: Read Romans 8:38-39.)

How did Daniel's obedience bring God glory? God was glorified because Daniel's obedience showed he loved God more than anything else. Daniel's obedience also glorified God because even though Daniel was thrown into the lions' den, this event allowed God to display His mighty power to save. King Darius praised God as the living God who rescues and delivers. (Option: Read 1 John 5:3-4.)

How can we stay true to God and not become like the world? Daniel remained faithful to God, even with the pressures of the king's law and others. The Bible tells us not to be conformed to the world but to be transformed by the renewing of our minds. Knowing God's Word and the power of the Holy Spirit will help us be transformed to be like Jesus. (Option: Read Romans 12:1-2.)



WHEN I AM AFRAID

Provide each kid with a key ring and five pre-printed index cards. Allow kids to decorate with stickers or colored pencil if they desire. Have them assemble the cards and slip them onto the key ring.

Daniel trusted God, so he did not have to be controlled by fear of people. When we are afraid, God's Word reminds us that we can trust Him. God protected Daniel, but He does not promise that we will never face trouble. Instead, He promises to be with us and help us trust Him. If we believe in Jesus' death and resurrection, we do not have to fear God's punishment for sin. Jesus took that punishment for us. When you are afraid or tempted to let fear keep you from trusting God, remember His promises and turn to His Word for encouragement.



Take prayer requests and allow kids to pray.



Match parent pick-up numbers, with child name tag numbers.
Build relationships with parents, encourage them to take a picture of the parent recap page to go over on the ride home.