

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Safe and Sound

Daniel Is Thrown into
a Den of Lions
Daniel 6

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

You can do what you should
because God is with you.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"Be strong and brave. Do not
be afraid. Do not lose hope.
I am the LORD your God. I will
be with you everywhere you go."
Joshua 1:9b, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Courage—Being brave enough
to do what you should do, even
when you're afraid

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

SMALL GROUP

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Early Arriver
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP

35
MIN

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways
WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

Welcome/Opener
Worship ("Your Way" from *Make a Move* and "(I Want to Say) Thank You" from *This Love*)
Bible Story
Bottom Line
Prayer
Closer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Bible Story Review: And ACTION! (*k-1st grade*), Face Your Fears Jar (*2nd-3rd grade*)

Application Activity: True or False (*k-1st grade*), Stand on His Word (*2nd-3rd grade*)

Memory Verse Activity: Memory Verse Backpack Tags (*k-1st grade*), Never Missing God (*2nd-3rd grade*)

Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Parent Cue Card (print or email)
Devotionals for Kids
Parent Cue App

STAND

DON'T FACE YOUR FEARS ALONE

WEEK
THREE
NOVEMBER 2022

LARGE GROUP
K-3

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Safe and Sound

Daniel Is Thrown into
a Den of Lions
Daniel 6

VERSES

Open the Bible to Daniel 6:20-22 (NirV) and read.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**You can do what you should
because God is with you.**

HOST SUPPLIES

- Table
- Fifty red, white, and blue paper plates (or Captain America-style star plates if you can find them)
- Two laundry baskets
- Captain America or super hero music for the game
- Masking tape
- Host's phone

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

**"Be strong and brave. Do not
be afraid. Do not lose hope.
I am the LORD your God. I will
be with you everywhere you go."**
Joshua 1:9b, NirV

STORY SUPPLIES

- Table
- Box with Large size Super Hero action figures to represent characters in the story (Daniel, King Darius, the two other governors). Two governors can be villains
- Box that's decorated to look like a castle (if placed upside down) or a toy castle
- Box to represent Daniel's room to pray
- Shoebox with lid for Lions Den. If available have Lion sound effect for every time the box is opened

MONTHLY VIRTUE

**Courage—Being brave enough
to do what you should do, even
when you're afraid**

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

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LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE KIDS' HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE BIBLE STORY, WORSHIP, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS KIDS ENTER.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

Host enters.

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN (30- OR 60-SECOND VERSION)

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME

OPENER

HOST: "Hi, friends! It's great to see you. We've got SO much fun in store today as we find out what it means to live with courage.

SLIDE: VIRTUE

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME TRANSITION TO VIRTUE

"Courage is being brave enough to do what you should do, even when you're afraid.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): VIRTUE TRANSITION TO THEME

"When you're courageous, you can face your fears. You can stand strong when others are afraid. You can [Basic Truth] make the wise choice, even when it's hard, because you know that God is always with you!

"When I think about being courageous, I think about superheroes! Do you have a favorite superhero? *(Pause.)* Okay, when I count to three, I want you to shout the name of your favorite superhero. One . . . two . . . three! *(Pause for response.)*

"Well, one of my favorite superheroes is Captain America™. So I thought we'd have a shield challenge to kick things off today. Let me get two Small Group Leaders up here to be our contestants.

Bring up two Small Group Leaders. Have them stand at the ends of the table with the red, white, and blue paper plates in front of them. Place baskets behind the Leaders so they have to throw around or over each other.

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10 MINUTES

"[Leader's name], you'll be representing this side of the room (*point*). And [leader's name], you'll be representing this side (*point*). To play the game, you'll stand behind the table and fling superhero shields like this.

Demonstrate by tossing a paper plate like a flying disk.

"You'll have 60 seconds to see how many shields you can land in your team's laundry basket. We'll all be cheering for you. Are you ready? (*Pause.*) Let's go!

AUDIO: FUN MUSIC

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN (60-SECOND VERSION)

If you're not using a screen countdown, set a timer on your phone for 60 seconds.

Comment on the action while the leaders fling the plates. If they start to run out, you can retrieve some of the plates that missed and put them back on the table.

If the leaders are too successful at first, have them take two steps back for the second half of the game. If they're not successful at first, move the baskets out to the sides for the second half.

When time's up, count the shields in the laundry baskets and declare a winner. Dismiss the two leaders to their seats. Gather up the scattered shields into the laundry baskets and set them to the side.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

"How about a big hand for our amazing leaders, [leaders' names]? I feel so courageous knowing you two are in charge! Let's all jump to our feet now so we can sing and worship God who's ALWAYS there to give us courage!"

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

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HOME

25 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Storyteller enters as Worship Leaders exit.

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: "Hi, everybody! Over the past few months, we've been making our way through God's Big Story in the Bible. (*Hold up Bible.*)

If you're using a Bible timeline on your wall, you can reference it here as you recap.

"We started at the very beginning, when God made the world. We saw how God promised to bless the whole world through Abraham's family, the Israelites. God rescued the Israelites from being enslaved in Egypt and led them to freedom in the Promised Land of Canaan.

"As we saw last week, God gave the Israelites kings to lead them. Some kings, like David, listened to God. But many of Israel's kings ignored God. These kings even told people to worship false gods. Things got so bad that God allowed the Israelites to be defeated by other nations. Some of the Israelites were even taken into captivity to a place called Babylon.

Move behind the table with the box of action figures.

"One of the people taken was a man named Daniel."

Hold up the action figure representing Daniel.

DANIEL'S DEVOTION

STORYTELLER: "Daniel might have been in a faraway land, but he still loved God and prayed to God three times every day. God made Daniel strong and wise and gave him great success.

Hold up the Daniel action figure and point to the tech booth to cue the sound effect.

AUDIO: "LEVEL UP" SOUND

(to the action figure) "Nice job, Daniel.

"Daniel served as an adviser to several kings over his lifetime. One of those kings was King Darius.

Hold up the action figure representing King Darius. Set the cardboard box "castle" on the table.

AUDIO: ROYAL FANFARE

"When King Darius took the throne, he chose 120 people to be in charge of the kingdom. He chose three governors to lead those 120 people.

Set the King Darius action figure on top of the "castle."

"Can you guess who the king chose to be one of the three governors? (Pause for response.) Right. Daniel.

Hold up the Daniel action figure.

AUDIO: "LEVEL UP" SOUND

"Let's see . . . we've got Daniel . . . and we've got the other two governors here.

Pick up the action figures representing the other two governors so that you're holding them and Daniel.

"Daniel was so trustworthy and did such a good job that King Darius actually planned to put Daniel in charge OVER the other two governors!"

AUDIO: "LEVEL UP" SOUND

Set the Daniel action figure down next to the king.

TWO JEALOUS GUYS

STORYTELLER: "The other two governors were not happy about this.

Hold up the other two governors.

AUDIO: SNEAKY MUSIC

"These two men decided to find something that Daniel had done wrong so they could tell the king about it and get Daniel in trouble.

"But get this—they couldn't find a thing that Daniel had done wrong!

Hold the other two governors in one hand while you hold up Daniel in your other hand.

AUDIO: "LEVEL UP" SOUND

"The only thing these guys DID notice was that Daniel prayed to God three times a day. And so the two men came up with a sneaky plan.

Hold up the other two governors. Put Daniel in the box representing his room

AUDIO: SNEAKY MUSIC

"They went to King Darius and asked him to make a new law.

Pick up King Darius. Hold King Darius in one hand, and the other two governors in your other hand.

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K-3

PRELUDE

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HOME

25 MINUTES

AUDIO: ROYAL FANFARE

"For the next 30 days, no one could pray to anyone but the king. If anyone prayed to someone else, they'd be thrown into a den of hungry lions!

Set the two governors down. Set the shoebox on the table.

AUDIO: LION ROAR

"Yikes!

Lift the lid and peek into the shoebox. Play Lion sound

AUDIO: LION ROAR

Quickly close the shoebox.

"King Darius agreed with this plan, and he wrote the law. This meant that the law could not be changed, even by the king himself!

AUDIO: DUN-DUN-DUN!

Set King Darius down on top of the castle. Hold up Daniel.

"Daniel heard about the king's law, but he prayed to God as he always did.

Set Daniel in the box for his room. Hold up King Darius in one hand, and the other governors in your other hand.

"The officials saw this, and they rushed to tell King Darius that Daniel had broken the law.

AUDIO: DUN-DUN-DUN!

Set the two governors down on the castle. Hold up King Darius in one hand, and Daniel in your other hand.

"The king really liked Daniel, but he had no choice. He had to follow the law. He had to throw Daniel into the lions' den."

Lift off the lid of the shoebox and put Daniel inside. Play Lion sound and pause before putting Daniel in

AUDIO: LION ROAR

DANIEL SURVIVES

STORYTELLER: "A stone was placed over the opening of the den so Daniel couldn't get out.
Replace the lid on top of the shoebox.

PRELUDE

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25 MINUTES

"It was just him . . . in the dark . . . all night . . . with the lions.

AUDIO: LION ROAR

Hold up the king.

"Meanwhile, the king was so worried about Daniel that he couldn't sleep. As soon as the sun rose, he hurried back to the lions' den. But the king did NOT find what he was expecting.

Take the lid off of the shoebox and set the king against the side of the shoebox so it looks like he's looking inside.

"The king called out . . .

Open the Bible to Daniel 6:20-22 (NIRV) and read.

"Daniel! You serve the living God. You always serve him faithfully. So has he been able to save you from the lions?"

"Daniel answered, 'Your Majesty, may you live forever! My God sent his angel. And his angel shut the mouths of the lions. They haven't hurt me at all. That's because I haven't done anything wrong in God's sight. I've never done anything wrong to you either, Your Majesty.'

"Did you hear that? Daniel was safe! God had protected him from the lions.

AUDIO: PURRING

"The king ordered his servants to lift Daniel out of the den. Daniel was completely unharmed!

Hold up Daniel.

AUDIO: "LEVEL UP" SOUND

Set Daniel down on the castle. Hold up King Darius.

"King Darius was so amazed at how God had protected Daniel that he wrote a letter to everyone in the kingdom. The king told everyone to respect and honor Daniel's God."

AUDIO: ROYAL FANFARE

Set King Darius down on the castle. Walk to the front of the stage as you wrap up.

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: "Pretty amazing, right? Daniel continued to serve King Darius. And because of Daniel's courage, every person in the land heard about the One True God!"

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"We can learn a lot from how Daniel acted in that tough situation. I mean, Daniel had some **SERIOUS** courage! He knew that God was with him. And even when things got really difficult, he never stopped praying. He never stopped trusting God. He knew what was right, and he wasn't afraid to keep doing it.

"Let's remember this.

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

"You can do what you should because God is with you.

"Isn't it good to know that God is always with you? That's the **BIGGEST** reason why we can live with courage. Let's pray and thank God for that now."

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

PRAY

STORYTELLER: "Dear God, thank You for giving Daniel the courage to do what was right. Daniel trusted You and believed that You were there with him. That's why he kept praying to You, even when those other guys were out to get him! Thank You for being with US, too, no matter what we face in life. Please help us remember that You are with us and that we can trust You, no matter what. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

PRELUDE

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25 MINUTES

CLOSER*Host enters as Storyteller exits.*

HOST: “That story is pretty incredible. I mean, Daniel was doing everything right and STILL, people were out to get him! They tried to force him to stop praying to God. But Daniel wouldn’t give in. God gave him the courage to do what was right.

“Even when Daniel had to spend the night in the lions’ den, he trusted that God would be with him—and sure enough, God kept him safe!

SLIDE: GOD’S BIG STORY TIMELINE

SLIDE: WEEK 3 TIMELINE IMAGE

If you’re making a timeline of printed images on your wall, take this moment to place today’s timeline image on the clothesline.

“I’m sure Daniel was scared of the lions. Who wouldn’t be? But Daniel trusted that God was with him, ALWAYS.

“Here’s what we can remember from Daniel’s story.

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

“You can do what you should because God is with you.

“Remember, when you choose to trust in Jesus and follow Him, you have God’s Holy Spirit living inside you. God’s Spirit can help you have courage, even when you face tough times.

“I remember when God’s Spirit helped ME do what was right.

Share a personal, age-appropriate personal story about a time you trusted that God was with you and that’s what helped you do the right thing.

“No matter what happens, remember that God is with you. **[Basic Truth] You can trust God no matter what!**

“You can head to Small Group now and talk some more about that. See you later, friends!”

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS THE KIDS EXIT.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP