



WEEK  
**THREE**  
OCTOBER 2023

SMALL GROUP  
**3-5** YEAR  
-OLDS

PRELUDE      SOCIAL      WORSHIP      STORY      GROUPS      HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION  
15 MINUTES

### MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts



## 2. FOLLOW ME RHYTHM

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Craft sticks

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Sit together at the table.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Give each child two craft sticks.

Encourage children to follow the different rhythms you tap with the craft sticks. (*Tap, tap, tap; tap, tap-tap, tap; tap-tap, tap, tap-tap; tap-tap, tap-tap, tap-tap; tap, tap, tap-tap, tap, etc.*)

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Introduce the Bible story and the concept of following.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, have a seat at the table. We're going to use the table to make some music today."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "I have craft sticks for you to use as rhythm sticks. (*Pass out craft sticks.*) I'll tap a rhythm with my sticks. I want you to listen closely and repeat that rhythm with your own sticks! Are you ready? Listen closely. (*Tap, tap, tap.*) Now you try. (*Tap sticks with the children.*) Good job. This one is a little harder. Listen. (*Tap-tap, tap, tap-tap.*) Your turn. (*Continue with different patterns and repeat as desired.*) You did a great job of listening and following my rhythm!"

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "In our Bible story today, we'll hear about a man named Daniel who listened to, trusted, and followed God, even when he needed to be brave! Let's go hear more about Daniel!"

**TRANSITION:** Move to Worship and Story by clapping or patting different rhythms for the children to copy as you travel.

### BIBLE STORY

I can be brave and trust God.

**DANIEL AND THE LIONS**  
**DANIEL 6:1-23**

### MEMORY VERSE

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid . . . for the Lord your God goes with you."

**DEUTERONOMY 31:6, NIV**

### KEY QUESTION

Who can help you be brave?

### BOTTOM LINE

God can help me be brave.

### BASIC TRUTH

God made me.



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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

**MADE TO CREATE**  
an activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft to take home



**5. THE LIONS AND DANIEL**

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "The Lions and Daniel" and "Lions and Daniel Label" Activity Pages, cardstock, Avery® #5160 labels or equivalent, crayons, brown construction paper, scissors, glue sticks, and a permanent marker

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "The Lions and Daniel" on cardstock and cut, one set per child. Fold each piece on its fold lines. Copy "Lions and Daniel Label" on label paper, one per child. Write each child's name on their piece of construction paper.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage children to color Daniel and the lions. Ask children to glue Daniel in the center of the construction paper then glue the lions around him. Ask children to add the label to their paper.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Review the Bible story.

**BIBLE STORY**

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**MEMORY VERSE**

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**KEY QUESTION**

Who can help you be brave?

**BOTTOM LINE**

God can help me be brave.

**BASIC TRUTH**

God made me.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, come sit with me at the table. Today, we heard how Daniel was brave in the lions' den because he knew that God was with him. Let's make a picture of Daniel being brave."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "You have pictures of Daniel and two lions. Use the crayons to color all of them. (Pause.) Great! Pick Daniel up and rub some glue on the tab then bend it back like this. (Demonstrate.) Glue Daniel in the middle of your paper. This will be the lions' den. Great, now do the same for each of your lions and glue them around Daniel. (Pause.) Add this label to your paper. It tells you where to find today's story in the Bible."

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Today, we learned about a man named Daniel. Daniel loved God and prayed to God every day. Daniel knew that he could always trust God. Daniel was very wise and worked VERY hard for the king. This made the king like Daniel so much that he wanted to put him in charge of everything. This made some people very jealous and angry! So angry that they tricked the king to make a rule that no one could pray to God but could only pray to the king. Daniel was brave! He knew he could be strong and courageous because he trusted God. So Daniel prayed to God every day, just as he always did."

"The angry people saw Daniel praying to God, and they told the king. The king was sad because he made the rule but now he had to throw Daniel into the lions' den! But Daniel was brave because he knew he could trust God. All night long, the king worried about Daniel. In the morning, the king ran to the lion's den and called out, 'Daniel! Did the God you pray to every day save you from the lions?' Daniel answered, 'Yes, king! God sent an angel to shut the mouths of the lions. I'm not hurt at all!' The king was so happy that he wrote a new rule saying that everyone should pray to the one true God. Daniel trusted God, and God helped Daniel be brave. God can help you be brave too. **Who can help you be brave? God can help me be brave.**"



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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

**MADE TO REFLECT**  
an activity that encourages personal application and prayer



**6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER**

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Memory Verse Card" from Week One in Bible, a journal, and a fun-shaped pen

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** If you do not have the "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible, copy "Memory Verse Card"

on cardstock and cut, one per small group. Place one card in your Bible at Deuteronomy 31:6. Keep this card in your Bible all month.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Lead the children to pretend to be lions as you walk to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you. Review the memory verse and motions, then encourage the children to make a list of things they want to tell God.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Pray with the children.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "It's Small Group time! Today, we'll pretend we're lions while we walk our Small Group spot. Roooarrrr! Follow me, hungry lions! (Pretend to be lions as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.) Here we are! Roooarrrr! Let's sit down so we can talk about today's Bible story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** (Open the Bible to this month's memory verse and lay it in front of the children.) "Daniel trusted God and did something very brave in our Bible story today. What brave thing did Daniel do? (Pause.) You're right! Daniel prayed to God, as he had always prayed, even though he might get thrown in a hole with the lions. Who helped Daniel be brave? (Pause.) Yes! Daniel trusted God, and God helped Daniel be brave! When we trust God, God can help us be brave, too! **Who can help you be brave? God can help me be brave!**"

"We have been learning a Bible verse that will help us remember God is with us and can help us be brave. It says, 'Be strong and courageous. (Hold fists in front of body.) Do not be afraid . . . (cross and uncross hands) for the Lord your God (flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down) goes with you;' (March in place.) Deuteronomy 31:6. (Open hands like a book.)"

"Let's stand up and say that Bible verse together! Just say what I say and do what I do. 'Be strong and courageous. (Hold fists in front of body.) Do not be afraid . . . (cross and uncross hands) for the Lord your God (flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down) goes with you;' (march in place) Deuteronomy 31:6. (Open hands like a book.)"

**BIBLE STORY**

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**KEY QUESTION**

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God made me.



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## (6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

"Way to go, super kids! Let's sit back down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. Daniel trusted God and prayed to God as he had always done. We can trust and pray to God too. God loves it when we talk to Him! That's why we're going to make a list of things we want to tell God. Then we can use our list when we pray. So when I say your name, tell me anything you want to pray to God about." *(Remember to print as you write in the journal so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)*

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "I'm so glad we can trust God and talk to Him about anything! Would anyone like to pray before I pray? *(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)*

"Dear God, thank You for loving *(name each child)*. We know we can trust You because You love us so much. Help us remember that we can always talk to You about anything like *(read the list the children made)*. You're the best, God, and we love You very much. In Jesus' name, amen."