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# Daniel: A man of principles



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## Introduction

We continue looking at the life of Daniel as a hero who stood for righteousness while exiled in a foreign nation. He was courageous to stand against the laws of the land and fully trusted God as he maintained his principles.

Our lesson objectives for this week:

- Teach the children that our principles are important in building our lives
- Teach the children to put the principles of the Word of God into practice every day

## Lesson Context:

- The story takes place in Babylon, where Daniel and his friends were carried into exile.
- The characters involved are: God, Daniel and King Darius
- Daniel was unjustly thrown into the lions' den because he prayed, but God saved him because he remained faithful to his principles.

## Read in advance:

- Daniel 6

## Memorize the Word:

"Those who lead blameless lives and do what is right, speaking the truth from sincere hearts."

## Psalm 15:2

## This week's Declaration:

I stand for what is right and I do what is right.

## Word of the week:

Principle



## Opening Activity:

KC: Play hangman using the words from the story of Daniel

TBT: Song :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=47Kf90d7Tf8>

## Opening Prayer:

Prayer: (Let the children repeat after you)

“Father God, thank You for a new day. Thank You for an opportunity to learn from Your word so I can grow in the principles of Your Word. In Jesus name. Amen.” ”

# Read the following scriptures



“Daniel 6:7

We are all in agreement—we administrators, officials, high officers, advisers, and governors—that the king should make a law that will be strictly enforced. Give orders that for the next thirty days any person who prays to anyone, divine or human—except to you, Your Majesty—will be thrown into the den of lions.

Daniel 6:10-11

But when Daniel learned that the law had been signed, he went home and knelt down as usual in his upstairs room, with its windows open toward Jerusalem. He prayed three times a day, just as he had always done, giving thanks to his God.<sup>11</sup> Then the officials went together to Daniel’s house and found him praying and asking for God’s help

Daniel 6:16

So at last the king gave orders for Daniel to be arrested and thrown into the den of lions. The king said to him, “May your God, whom you serve so faithfully, rescue you.”

Daniel 6: 21-23

Daniel answered, “Long live the king!<sup>22</sup> My God sent his angel to shut the lions’ mouths so that they would not hurt me, for I have been found innocent in his sight. And I have not wronged you, Your Majesty.”<sup>23</sup> The king was overjoyed and ordered that Daniel be lifted from the den. Not a scratch was found on him, for he had trusted in his God.

## Discussion points:

We can learn some important things about having clear principles from this passage:

- Not giving into pressure: Even though a law was passed against Daniel and many people were against him, he did not allow himself to be intimidated or do what was wrong. He remained faithful in praying to God.

**A hero does not give in to pressure!**

- Being brave: Daniel knew that he would be thrown into a den of lions if he prayed. However, he was so brave that he decided to honour God regardless of the consequences.

**A hero is very brave!**

- Being protected by God: Daniel was thrown into the lions' den and spent the night there. But he suffered no harm because God sent His angel to protect him.

**A hero knows that God protects them from trouble.**

## Application:

Remind each child that it will not always be easy to stand for what is right and to do what is right but God will help us every step of the way. Help the children commit to living a principled life through the help of the Holy Spirit.

Pray: (let the children pray after you)

Father, I thank You for forming me to be a hero with strong principles like Daniel. Please be with me always and help me to be brave. I will always serve You and do what is right. In the name of Jesus, amen.

# Instruction:

Help the children think of some practical commitments they could make to become people of principles. Eg:

- Not watching inappropriate movies or programmes
- Being obedient to parents
- Doing their best at school
- Not saying bad words
- Helping with chores at home
- Praying at every meal

Lead the kids into applying the blood of Jesus over themselves and their friends:

- By the blood of Jesus, My friend/s and I have been redeemed from the power of the enemy. The devil has no power over us.
- By the blood of Jesus, all our sins have been forgiven.
- By the blood of Jesus we have been cleansed from all our sins.
- By the blood of Jesus, My friend/s and I have been justified. God sees us as if we had never sinned.
- By the blood of Jesus, My friend/s and I have been sanctified and set apart for God. We will do great things for God on this earth.



Remember we have age specific devotionals for the kids to help consolidate the lesson.

