

City LG—November 20th, 2022

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 (NIRV)

REMINDER: Kids will need to be grouped into Small Groups to begin Service

Need: Superhero Cards for Offering Time

WORSHIP: "Shine a Light" and "Give My All"

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

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

"Now, before we get too far into our story today, I have a question for you..."

SLIDE: Question ("What is your favorite animal?")

"Talk it out with your groups! Ready? GO!"

CG: Question Video (Runtime: 3:00)

"Great job everyone! I heard some great answers. Let's continue our story today!"

"Our hero Daniel might have been in the faraway land of Babylon, but he still loved God and prayed to God three times every day. God made Daniel strong and wise and gave him great success.

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

"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!"

"The other two governors were not happy about this.

"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. Let's find out what happens with the help of this week's Story Lab!"

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 12:00)

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

"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 learn today’s Bottom Line together!”

CG: Bottom Line Video (Runtime: 1:00)

SLIDE: Bottom Line

[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.”

PRAY: “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.”

“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!

“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

[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. **You can trust God no matter what!**”

OFFERING TIME:

“As many of you know, we are collecting our offering to help our friends at Vida Nueva Ministries in Piedras Negras Mexico. Vida Nueva means “New Life” in Spanish, and that is truly the goal of this ministry. When you give your offering, you are helping our friends in Mexico experience the “new life” that Jesus can offer them. Here is a picture of Eli and Mandy Garcia and their kids.

SLIDE: Eli and Mandy

Before you leave today, make sure to grab one of these Superhero Cards (show cards) of Eli and Mandy. It will help you to remember to pray for them. Also, if you brought an offering you can bring it up now!”