

BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE®

SPRING 2022

Unit 1, Session 4

CONNECTION POINT:

Remaining in Christ means our relationships are marked by love.

THE BIBLE MEETS

LIFE: We all want people to love us, even though we may find it hard to love people in return. We know we're supposed to love others, but that's easier said than done. Yet when we discover God's love for us, our understanding of what it means to love changes. But even more than knowing about God's love, when we experience His love firsthand and remain there, He empowers us to love in the same way.

LIVE IT OUT: Your student has been encouraged to take practical steps to take his or her faith and Live It Out.

FAMILY CONNECTION

Use these discussion starters to help foster a spiritual conversation with your family.

PRESCHOOL

Scripture: Daniel 1:1-20

Live It Out: Obedience is hard for some children to learn. Pray for guidance as you teach your child. By learning to obey parents, children learn to obey God.

Daniel and his three friends lived in King Nebuchadnezzar's palace. They were learning to be helpers to the king.

The king wanted Daniel and his friends to eat the food he ate. Daniel knew that the king's food was not the food that he should eat.

Daniel asked the king's helper to bring vegetables and water for them. The king's helper was afraid the boys would not be strong and healthy.

Daniel said, "Please feed us vegetables and water for 10 days. See if we are as strong and healthy as the other men." The king's helper agreed. After 10 days, Daniel and his friends were stronger and healthier than the other young men.

God helped Daniel and his friends learn many things. Daniel and his friends obeyed God.

KIDS

Scripture: Daniel 1:1-20

Live It Out: Talk about ways your child can obey God, such as by obeying parents, reading the Bible, going to church, loving others. Pray with your child that God will help him obey.

Nebuchadnezzar ordered the young men from Jerusalem be brought to his palace. The men would be educated to serve the king and be fed from the king's table.

Daniel and three friends were among those chosen. Daniel did not want to defile himself with the king's food. The official worried about his own life if the men were not as healthy as the others. Daniel asked the guard to test them by giving them vegetables and water for ten days. Then the guard could compare their appearance to the others. The guard agreed to this test.

At the end of ten days, Daniel and his friends looked healthier than the other men. So the guard continued to give them vegetables instead of the king's food. God blessed the four young men. He gave Daniel and his friends knowledge and understanding.

STUDENTS

Scripture: John 15:9-17

- What are some practical steps we can take to remain in God's love?
- What does it practically look like to love others the way Jesus loves us?
- Why is producing spiritual fruit an important part of our Christian life?

Live It Out: God loves all the people of the world. In fact, love is central to God's very nature. Because we are called to reflect God in all the ways we live, we should love others as God does. Because of sin's curse, people are naturally inclined toward living selfishly as opposed to loving others sacrificially. However, when we pursue a relationship with Christ, our hearts are changed and He helps us to love others well.

How would you describe Jesus's love for you? Challenge each member of your family to write a brief prayer thanking Jesus for the ways He shows His love for you.