

Daniel in Exile

Week 18



Big Idea: Integrity is who you are when no one is looking.

Key Verse: Daniel 6:26-27

²⁶ “I issue a decree that in every part of my kingdom people must fear and reverence the God of Daniel. “For he is the living God and he endures forever; his kingdom will not be destroyed, his dominion will never end. ²⁷ He rescues and he saves; he performs signs and wonders in the heavens and on the earth. He has rescued Daniel from the power of the lions.”

Table Talk

Daniel followed God’s rules instead of the king’s and got in trouble. Have you ever gotten in trouble for doing the right thing? If so, what happened?

Daniel prayed even though he knew it could cost him his life. What are some things you pray about?

Daniel’s punishment for praying to God was to be thrown into the lions’ den. Everybody take turns doing their best lion’s roar (even parents). Who protected Daniel from the lions?

King Darius knew Daniel served God. The king even said, “You always serve your God faithfully. So may he save you” (Daniel 6:16). Daniel showed King Darius true faith in God with his actions (by praying and trusting him for protection) without saying a word. What are some actions you can take to show others you serve the one true God?

Living Faith

Daniel was forced to have a sleepover with some hairy, scary friends. Follow his example—sort of—by planning a family sleepover. You can do it in your bedroom, a living room, or family room. Pick either a Friday or Saturday night and plan ahead to make it fun. At the beginning you can pray, “God, you protected Daniel during his sleepover with the lions, and we know you’ll be with us tonight, too. Amen.” Try these ideas or make up some of your own to create some family memories.

Play Simon Says. Play one of your kids’ favorite board games.

Put together a puzzle. Rent a video and pop popcorn.

Have everybody write down a tongue twister (or make one up). Fold up each paper and put it in a hat. Take turns drawing one and trying to say the tongue twister five times fast.

Play charades. Have family members act out the title to a favorite song, movie, or TV show.

Hide the thimble. Take turns hiding a thimble (or other small object) in the room with nobody looking. As everybody searches, the “hider” gives clues by saying, “You’re getting warmer” (if a person is close to finding it) or “You’re getting colder” (if a person is going the wrong direction).

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