

# BIBLE NARRATIVE FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN

STORYTELLING DIRECTIONS: Have children roar like a hungry lion when indicated.

Daniel was one of God's people who had been taken to a land far away from his home. He was a good worker for the king of the land. Daniel believed in God and prayed to Him every day. The king's other workers did not believe in God. They didn't like that Daniel prayed to God. They wanted to get him into trouble. So they made a plan.

They went to the king and said, "We think you should make a law that says everyone should pray only to you. Anyone who prays to someone else should be thrown into a den of hungry lions!" *Roar!*

The king liked this idea, so he made it a new law. Do you think Daniel prayed to the king? No, Daniel knew praying to the king would be wrong. He knew we should pray only to God. So Daniel went on praying to God just as he had before. The king's workers watched to see what Daniel would do. When they saw him kneeling by his window to pray to God, they hurried to the king. "Daniel is not obeying the new law," they said.

The king was sad when he heard Daniel had broken the

law. He liked Daniel. But he couldn't change the law. He knew he had to put Daniel in the den of lions. *Roar!* "Pray to your God, Daniel. Ask Him to save you," the king said. Then, the king's helpers put Daniel in the den of lions. *Roar!*

The king went back to his palace. He couldn't sleep that night. He thought Daniel would be eaten by all those hungry lions. *Roar!* The next morning, the king hurried to the lions' den. "Daniel," he shouted. "Did you pray to your God? Was He strong enough to protect you from the hungry lions?"

Daniel answered, "Yes! God kept me safe. He sent His angel to keep the mouths of the hungry lions shut, so they could not hurt me."

Then, the king told everyone how God had protected Daniel and kept him safe. God watches over you and me too. He sent Jesus to save us from sin. He hears our prayers and keeps us safe.

Other actions besides having the kids roar every time you say lion would be to have them fold their hands every time you say pray, they could make a crown on their head every time you say king, and they could say God is judge every time you say Daniel. You could go through the story multiple times using a different action or echo each time so they hear it more than once but still listen for the key words.