

**Youtube Link for Teachers:** [https://youtu.be/M6JmWc9\\_-Qk](https://youtu.be/M6JmWc9_-Qk)

**Children's Bible Story Video:** <https://youtu.be/0jGXFzZcSTU>

**Worship Theme: God deserves our loyalty.**

**Memory Verse:** "My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in his sight. Nor have I ever done any wrong before you, Your Majesty." (Daniel 6:22)

Songs (Youtube links):

1. Isn't He Wonderful? <https://youtu.be/uFsMi06lhvE>
2. Jesus Christ Is the Lord of All <https://youtu.be/l-PzUIJ0MVo>
3. When I Am Afraid <https://youtu.be/WCZlwlstAzc>

### Pray

**Song:** Select songs from the list above.

### Icebreaker: Daniel

1. Children will take different actions to play this game.
  - a. Daniel: Children will put their hands together in prayer motion.
  - b. Officer: Children will point to their head.
  - c. Lion: Children will raise both hands and make a lion's claw and put it near the mouth.



2. Divide the children into two teams and have them stand back to back. Each team will discuss and choose the action they want (Daniel, officer, or lion).
3. Explain to the children that Daniel wins the lion; lion wins the officer; officer wins Daniel.
4. The teacher will count 1, 2, 3 and the children will turn and face each other with their selected action. If both teams have the same action, they need to do it again.
5. If the group wins 3 times, they win the game.
6. After the game, explain to the children that when we are loyal to God like Daniel, God will protect us from everything.

### Introduction:

Do you know what loyalty is? Loyalty means sticking with someone no matter what. Who would you like to be loyal to? Your parents? Siblings? Friends? Of all the people in the world, we need to be loyal to God. We need to stick with God no matter what. Today, we will learn about a man named Daniel who was loyal to God no matter what!

### Bible Story:

When Daniel was young, he was taken as a captive to Babylon from Israel. Now Babylon had been taken over by Medes and Persia, so there was a new king named Darius ruling this country. The king really liked Daniel and made him one of the three administrators to watch over the kingdom. In fact, Daniel was such a great leader that King Darius wanted to set him over the whole kingdom. But the other administrators did not like that and wanted to get rid of Daniel. But they could not find any wrongdoings of Daniel because he was a good man.

Then one day, these administrators went to the king and asked the king to make a law forbidding anyone from praying to their gods except for the king. They also said that punishment for anyone who prays to any god will be thrown into a lions' den. They knew that Daniel loved God and will not give up praying to his God. King Darius signed the law and forbade anyone from praying to any god or humans other than the king.

That day, when Daniel learned that the law had been published, he went home and prayed to God with his windows open, three times a day as he used to do! He was not ashamed to pray to God even if it meant he could be thrown in a lions' den!

Then the men went to the king and told him about Daniel who prayed to God and asked the king to punish Daniel. King Darius was very sad to hear this because he loved Daniel, but he could not break his own law, so he had to have Daniel thrown into a lions' den.

The next day, King returned to the lions' den to check on Daniel whom he thought was eaten up by the hungry lions. But the lions did not eat Daniel because God sent his angel and shut the mouths of the lions. The king was very happy that God protected Daniel!

God deserves our loyalty even when it's not easy to be loyal. God is always with us, especially when things are hard. God didn't keep Daniel from getting in trouble, but God was with him in the middle of his trouble.

Another reason God deserves our loyalty is that God is holy. One meaning of holy is perfect. We aren't perfect, but God is. And the cool thing about God is that we don't have to be perfect or do everything perfectly in order for him to accept us. Jesus lived a perfect life for us! We just have to get to know Jesus and love him. And he can help us be more holy, too.

No matter what happens in your life, be loyal to God which means to stick with God. And always believe that God is always with us in good times and bad times.

#### Questions to discuss:

1. What is the name of the king of Medes and Persia? (King Darius)
2. What did the king want to do for Daniel? (he was one of the three administrators to oversee the kingdom, but the king wanted to set him over the whole kingdom)
3. What did the other administrators do to stop Daniel from becoming the ruler over the whole kingdom? (they made the king sign a law saying anyone who prays to god or humans others than the king for the next 30 days will be thrown into a lions' den)
4. Knowing this new law, what did Daniel do? (he still went home and prayed to God three times a day with his windows open)
5. Who saved Daniel from the lions' den? (God's angel shut the mouths of the hungry lions)
6. What can you do today to show your loyalty to God? (Let the children answer)

#### Game: "Freeze Tag"



Select a child to be "it" to play freeze tag.

1. The children will need to stay inside the classroom.
2. You can yell out "freeze" if you



don't want to be tagged. You can join the game again when someone tags to free you.

3. If you're tagged by the "it" person, then you become the next "it" person to tag others.
4. After the game, explain to the children that we can yell out "Freeze" to keep ourselves safe. In the same way, when Daniel was loyal to God, God stopped even the hungry lions from killing him. Remember, we should always be loyal to God!

#### Memory Verse:

"My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in his sight. Nor have I ever done any wrong before you, Your Majesty." (Daniel 6:22)

### **Craft: “God Shut the Mouths of the Lions”**

Materials Needed: Printed craft sheet, crayons, scissors, glue



1. Give a printed craft sheet to each child.
2. Color the lion.
3. Fold the mouth so that the face of the lion is a circle.
4. Open and close the mouth of the lion and help the children memorize the memory verse.



**Song:** Select songs from the list above

**Pray**

#### **Teacher’s Devotion (Please read before you get ready to teach the students.)**

Daniel faced significant hardship, and he endured because of his strong relationship with God. Like Daniel, who answered to a king and was the victim of a conspiracy, we answer to people and wrestle with difficult issues each day. Reread Daniel 6:10-11. When Daniel’s circumstances turned negative, he maintained a heart full of thanksgiving and prayer. What are you thankful for today? What do you need from God? Tell him! Ask him! And go in peace!

## “God Shut the Mouths of the Lions”



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