

THE CHURCH IN NEW YORK CITY
CHILDREN'S MEETING LESSON (Pre-K & K)

Lesson #45

DATE:

SUBJECT: Daniel in the Lion's Den

SCRIPTURE: Daniel 6:1-28

AIM: To show the children that God takes care of those who are faithful to Him.

MEMORY VERSE: Daniel 6:16b "... God whom you serve continually, He will deliver you."

SONGS: 24, 168, 185, 184

Review:

Last time you heard a story about some men who had something very bad happen to them. What was it? (They got thrown into the fire) How many men were there? (Three) Why did they get thrown into the fire? (Because they didn't bow to the statue the king set up) Did they get burned up? (No) What happened? (The people outside saw 4 men in the fire) Who was the other man in the fire (The Lord Jesus)

Content:

Daniel, his friends and lots of other of God's people stayed in Babylon away from their home a long time. After the king who threw the men into the fire was no longer king, another man became king. His name was Darius. He also liked Daniel. King Darius made Daniel the head of all the princes and chief officers and counselors in the land. Daniel was the most important man in the land next to the king. Some of the other princes and chief officers and counselors were jealous of Daniel. Tried to find something wrong with him to tell the king but they couldn't find any fault with Daniel. They said to each other – we won't be able to find anything against Daniel except maybe something about the law of his God. So all the princes, chief officers, counselors, governors and other important people got together to make a law. If anybody would ask something of any god or any man except the king for thirty days, he would be thrown into the den of lions. (A den is a hole in the ground) After they made the law they went to the king and asked him to sign it and he did.

When Daniel heard about the law he went to his house to pray as before. Daniel prayed and gave thanks to God three times a day with his windows open. (Praying is talking to God. It is thanking God and also asking Him for things.) The other men saw him praying (because his windows were open) They went to the king and reminded him of the law he signed and told him Daniel prayed to God three times a day. When the king heard this, he was not happy with himself for making the law and worked hard all day to figure out how to keep Daniel from being thrown into the lion's den but he couldn't. Finally they got Daniel and put him in with the lions. But the king told Daniel "Your God whom you serve continually, he will deliver you." After Daniel was thrown into the den, a stone was put in front of it.

The king went to his palace but didn't eat or sleep all night. Very early in the morning the king got up and went to the den of lions. He cried to Daniel "O Daniel, servant of the living God, is your God whom you serve continually able to deliver you from the lions? (What do you think? – make it very suspenseful here) Daniel told the king that God sent an angel to shut the lions' mouths and they didn't hurt him. Daniel also told the king that he didn't mean to disobey the king – he just prayed to God as always.

The king was SOOO glad and they took Daniel out of the den. He wasn't hurt at all because he believed in God! Instead of Daniel they put the bad men who talked against Daniel in the den. And you can guess what happened. The king made a new law that everyone in the land should respect Daniel's God because He is the living God and he can do wonderful things. So everything stayed good for Daniel while Darius was king.

Application:

Daniel always prayed three times a day no matter what. He didn't care who saw him praying. Because Daniel took care of God – God took care of him. We shouldn't be afraid to pray in front of other people either. – Like our friends, or in nursery school, or when we go to regular school – to thank the Lord for our lunch or ask him to help us. Today no one is going to throw us to the lions if we pray but they may make fun of us but the Lord will help us!

Craft Idea:

A picture of Daniel surrounded by lions. You can paste big areas of gray or brown to be rocks and also brown fur on the lions. Younger ones can color with limited pasting depending on age and number of children in the class.