

## Family Lesson 46

**Principle:** Faithfulness to God.

**Bible Character(s):** Daniel

**Scripture Reference:** Daniel 6

- 1. Worship** - Gather your family and play the [worship video](#) found on the curriculum resource page. Have fun, sing loudly, and follow along with the motions!
- 2. Skit Video** - Watch the [skit video](#) with your family to hear a special message about what you will be learning this weekend.
- 3. Bible Lesson** - Read through the lesson with your family. The bold font is meant to be read aloud along with the Scripture references.

### Bible Lesson

**Who did we learn about last week?** (Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.) **They were taken to live under King Nebuchadnezzar's authority in the empire of Babylon. Did they obey all of the king's commands at first?** (Yes, they respected him and obeyed his commands.) **When did they not obey the king?** (When he asked them to worship a golden statue. They refused to turn from worshiping God, knowing it could get them killed.) **What happened when they refused to bow to the statue?** (King Nebuchadnezzar ordered them to be thrown into a fiery furnace, but God saved them from death.) **They trusted in God's plan for them, even if it meant dying. King Nebuchadnezzar then praised God. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego had the choice to trust in God's plan for each of them. We also have the choice of whether we will trust God with our lives or not. We can trust that God knows what is best for us because he is sovereign, and his plan is for the best.**

Today, we are going to read about Daniel. Daniel is faithful to God, following him no matter what. He works hard at everything he does, and he is known for being honest and trustworthy.

Let's begin by reading the Bible in Daniel 6 [NLT].

### Daniel 6:3-6

<sup>3</sup> Daniel soon proved himself more capable than all the other administrators and high officers. Because of Daniel's great ability, the king made plans to place him over the entire empire.

<sup>4</sup> Then the other administrators and high officers began searching for some fault in the way Daniel was handling government affairs, but they couldn't find anything to criticize or condemn. He was faithful, always responsible, and completely trustworthy.

<sup>5</sup> So they concluded, "Our only chance of finding grounds for accusing Daniel will be in connection with the rules of his religion."

<sup>6</sup> So the administrators and high officers went to the king and said, "Long live King Darius! 7 We are all in agreement—we administrators, officials, high officers, advisers, and governors—that the king should make a law that will be strictly enforced. Give orders that for the next thirty days any person who prays to anyone, divine or human—except to you, Your Majesty—will be thrown into the den of lions.

**Daniel is a man of strong character. He seeks to be faithful to God in everything he does. He believes in and trusts God. The men who are jealous of Daniel's job cannot find any faults in his character. Can people who know you see sin in your life? Should you try to be faithful to God all the time or only when you are at church? Do you try to follow God's commandments all the time, even when it is hard, or do you only follow them when it is good or easy for you? (Allow responses.)**

**King Darius' law forced Daniel to make a choice. He could either start praying to King Darius to save himself from death, or he could continue to pray to and worship the one true God. In our last lesson, who had to make a decision about worshipping God? (Allow responses.) Shadrach,**

Meshach, and Abednego also had to make a decision to worship God or the gold statue King Nebuchadnezzar created. Let's read to find what Daniel chooses to do in a similar situation.

**Daniel 6:10-17**

<sup>10</sup> But when Daniel learned that the law had been signed, he went home and knelt down as usual in his upstairs room, with its windows open toward Jerusalem. He prayed three times a day, just as he had always done, giving thanks to his God.

<sup>11</sup> Then the officials went together to Daniel's house and found him praying and asking for God's help.

<sup>12</sup> So they went straight to the king and reminded him about his law. "Did you not sign a law that for the next thirty days any person who prays to anyone, divine or human—except to you, Your Majesty—will be thrown into the den of lions?" "Yes," the king replied, "that decision stands; it is an official law of the Medes and Persians that cannot be revoked."

<sup>13</sup> Then they told the king, "That man Daniel, one of the captives from Judah, is ignoring you and your law. He still prays to his God three times a day."

<sup>14</sup> Hearing this, the king was deeply troubled, and he tried to think of a way to save Daniel. He spent the rest of the day looking for a way to get Daniel out of this predicament.

<sup>15</sup> In the evening the men went together to the king and said, "Your Majesty, you know that according to the law of the Medes and the Persians, no law that the king signs can be changed."

<sup>16</sup> So at last the king gave orders for Daniel to be arrested and thrown into the den of lions. The king said to him, "May your God, whom you serve so faithfully, rescue you."

<sup>17</sup> A stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the den. The king sealed the stone with his own royal seal and the seals of his nobles, so that no one could rescue Daniel.

**What does Daniel choose—to obey the law or pray to God like he always has? (Allow responses.) Daniel chooses to continue praying to God! He stays faithful to God and worships him through prayer even though he knows he**

**will be thrown into the lions' den. Have you ever had to make a choice to stay faithful to God or do what someone else wanted? What did you do? (Allow responses.)**

**Who saved Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego when they faced death? (Allow responses.) God! What do you think will happen to Daniel? Do you think God will save Daniel just like he saved Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego? (Allow responses.)**

**Let's continue reading the Bible to find out.**

**Daniel 6:18-23**

<sup>18</sup> Then the king returned to his palace and spent the night fasting. He refused his usual entertainment and couldn't sleep at all that night.

<sup>19</sup> Very early the next morning, the king got up and hurried out to the lions' den. <sup>20</sup> When he got there, he called out in anguish, "Daniel, servant of the living God! Was your God, whom you serve so faithfully, able to rescue you from the lions?"

<sup>21</sup> Daniel answered, "Long live the king! <sup>22</sup> My God sent his angel to shut the lions' mouths so that they would not hurt me, for I have been found innocent in his sight. And I have not wronged you, Your Majesty."

<sup>23</sup> The king was overjoyed and ordered that Daniel be lifted from the den. Not a scratch was found on him, for he had trusted in his God.

**God saves Daniel from the lions' den. How do you think everyone reacts when they find out that Daniel has not been eaten by the lions? (Allow responses.) God uses Daniel's faithfulness to help others.**

**Let's keep reading the Bible and see how God uses Daniel.**

**Daniel 6:25-28**

<sup>25</sup> Then King Darius sent this message to the people of every race and nation and language throughout the world:

"Peace and prosperity to you!"

<sup>26</sup> “I decree that everyone throughout my kingdom should tremble with fear before the God of Daniel.

*For he is the living God,  
and he will endure forever.  
His kingdom will never be destroyed,  
and his rule will never end.*

<sup>27</sup> *He rescues and saves his people;  
he performs miraculous signs and wonders  
in the heavens and on earth.  
He has rescued Daniel  
from the power of the lions.”*

<sup>28</sup> *So Daniel prospered during the reign of Darius and the reign of Cyrus the Persian.*

**Daniel is faithful to continue praying to God even when he is faced with death. Daniel’s faithfulness to continue praying impacts others. Because of Daniel’s faithfulness, God’s power and protection are seen by others, and God is given praise and honor. Daniel is just one person, but his life impacts a lot of other people. You can impact other people as well. The way you act and behave will affect those around you. When you love others the way God loves you, it will change their lives. God can use you to love and show himself to others. He can use us when we are faithful to him.**

## Prayer

Spend some time in prayer to close the lesson. Ask God to help us stay faithful to him no matter what hard situations we face. Ask God to use each child’s life to bring others to Jesus.

## Activity

### Our Protection

The purpose is to remind us that God is our protector.

### Supplies:

Umbrella Worksheet found on the [Kids Resource Page](#)

Markers, crayons, or pencils

**What does an umbrella do for us in rainy weather? Does an umbrella stop the rain?** (Allow responses.) **No, but when we go out in the rain, the umbrella protects us from getting wet. Daniel had to go into the lions’ den. Did God take him out of the lions’ den that night?** (Allow responses.) **No, but he did protect Daniel from the lions. Sometimes, we are in a hard situation. God does not always take us out of the situation, but he does protect us, like the umbrella protects us from getting wet. We can follow God’s commandments and trust that God will protect us, even if we find ourselves in a “lions’ den,” or a hard situation.**

Have your child turn to the umbrella side of their worksheets. Ask them to draw a picture of themselves under the umbrella. Then ask them to write or draw pictures of hard things they might face in the raindrops above the umbrella. (Ex: afraid of the dark, thunderstorm, loneliness, a bully, parents fighting, sickness, feeling left out, being treated unfairly, afraid to try something new, etc.)

## Tie It Together

The Bible tells us to trust God always. He is our protector. The Bible says in Psalm 91:2, “He alone is my refuge, my place of safety; he is my God, and I trust him,” and in Psalm 121:7-8, “The Lord keeps you from all harm and watches over your life. The Lord keeps watch over you as you come and go, both now and forever.” We can trust God because he protects us and keeps us safe. His word tells us he will always watch over us. Since we can trust God and his word, we know he will never leave us and we can obey his commandments. Daniel trusted God just like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego did. Daniel was faithful and followed God’s commandments, even though he knew he would be put in the lions’ den.

## Additional Optional Activity

### Daniel Word Search

Found on the [Kids Resource Page](#)

