



BIBLE CLASS PACK · DANIEL 6

Daniel and the Lions' Den

My God sent his angel and shut the lions' mouths.



Inside this pack

- Teacher prep checklist & 45-minute plan
- Scripture text (ESV) & background notes
- Read-aloud story script
- Discussion questions for K-2 and 3-5
- "Sleeping Lions" game & memory-verse game
- Paper-plate lion craft + template
- Two coloring pages (K-2 and 3-5)
- Story sequencing sheet (K-2)
- Word search & questions (3-5)
- Memory verse cards, take-home page, answer key

Ages 5-11 · One 45-60 minute class · Print on US Letter

At a Glance

Big idea: Daniel kept praying to God and giving thanks, even when a law said not to. God saw his faithfulness and rescued him from the lions. He is the living God, and we can talk to Him every day.

Scripture

Daniel 6:1-28

Supporting: Psalm 55:17; Acts 5:29; 1

Thessalonians 5:17-18

Memory verse

K-2 “My God sent his angel and shut the lions’ mouths” — Daniel 6:22a

3-5 “He got down on his knees three times a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as he had done previously.” — Daniel 6:10b

Children will

1. **Know** that Daniel kept praying to God, and God shut the lions’ mouths.
2. **Understand** that being faithful means obeying God first, even when it is hard or other people disapprove.
3. **Do** set three times to pray and give thanks each day this week.

Age split

Every section marks **K-2** (ages 5-7) and **3-5** (ages 8-11) options. Combined class? Use the K-2 path and give older children the 3-5 questions as “challenge” questions.

Teacher Prep Checklist

The week before

- ☐ Read all of Daniel 6 (key verses on p. 4)
- ☐ Read the background notes (p. 3)
- ☐ Print pages 7-13 (one per child)
- ☐ Gather paper plates and yellow/orange paper strips
- ☐ Practice the story script once

Class day

- ☐ Clear floor space for Sleeping Lions
- ☐ Set out plates, glue, scissors, crayons
- ☐ Draw a window on the board
- ☐ Write the memory verse on the board
- ☐ Pray for your students by name

Printing: Pages 7-13 are student pages. Card stock is best for the craft (p. 7) and verse cards (p. 12). Everything prints well in black & white.

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Lesson Plan (45 minutes)

0-5 min	Welcome & opener. Ask: “When do you talk to God? Morning? Bedtime? Meals?” Count the times on fingers.
5-15	Bible story. Open your Bible to Daniel 6. Tell the story with the script (p. 5).
15-22	Discuss. Use the questions for your age group (p. 5).
22-32	Sleeping Lions game (p. 6).
32-42	Craft, coloring, or worksheet (pp. 7-11). Practice the memory verse while they work.
42-45	Close. Pray together three short prayers: one of thanks, one for someone else, one for help. Send home p. 13.

Have 60 minutes? Add the memory-verse game (p. 6) and do both the craft and the worksheet.

Background for the Teacher

Daniel in Babylon. Daniel was taken from Jerusalem to Babylon as a young man (Daniel 1). By chapter 6 he is an old man serving King Darius the Mede, who planned to set him over the whole kingdom because “an excellent spirit was in him” (6:3).

The trap. Jealous officials could find no fault in Daniel “unless we find it... in connection with the law of his God” (6:5). They persuaded the king to sign a 30-day law: pray to no god or man except the king. A law of the Medes and Persians could not be changed (6:8).

Daniel’s response. Daniel did not hide and did not protest. He simply kept doing what he had always done: knelt by his open windows toward Jerusalem three times a day, “prayed and gave thanks before his God, as he had done previously” (6:10).

The king and the den. Darius was distressed and tried all day to save Daniel (6:14). Notice his words: “May your God, whom you serve continually, deliver you!” (6:16). At dawn Daniel answered, “My God sent his angel and shut the lions’ mouths” (6:22). Darius then honored “the living God” (6:26-27).

The Bible Passage (Daniel 6:1-28, ESV)

Selected verses. Read these aloud from your own Bible as well, so children see the story comes from God's Word.

Daniel 6:10

¹⁰ When Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he went to his house where he had windows in his upper chamber open toward Jerusalem. He got down on his knees three times a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as he had done previously.

Daniel 6:16

¹⁶ Then the king commanded, and Daniel was brought and cast into the den of lions. The king declared* to Daniel, "May your God, whom you serve continually, deliver you!"

Daniel 6:19-24

¹⁹ Then, at break of day, the king arose and went in haste to the den of lions. ²⁰ As he came near to the den where Daniel was, he cried out in a tone of anguish. The king declared to Daniel, "O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to deliver you from the lions?" ²¹ Then Daniel said to the king, "O king, live forever! ²² My God sent his angel and shut the lions' mouths, and they

have not harmed me, because I was found blameless before him; and also before you, O king, I have done no harm." ²³ Then the king was exceedingly glad, and commanded that Daniel be taken up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no kind of harm was found on him, because he had trusted in his God. ²⁴ And the king commanded, and those men who had maliciously accused Daniel were brought and cast into the den of lions—they, their children, and their wives. And before they reached the bottom of the den, the lions overpowered them and broke all their bones in pieces.

Daniel 6:26-27

²⁶ I make a decree, that in all my royal dominion people are to tremble and fear before the God of Daniel, for he is the living God, enduring forever; his kingdom shall never be destroyed, and his dominion shall be to the end. ²⁷ He delivers and rescues; he works signs and wonders in heaven and on earth, he who has saved Daniel from the power of the lions."

* Daniel 6:16 ESV footnote: Aramaic answered and said; also verse 20.

Words to explain: **document** - a written law the king signed; **upper chamber** - an upstairs room; **previously** - before, the way he always had; **den** - a pit or cave where lions were kept; **continually** - all the time, without stopping; **anguish** - great worry and pain; **blameless** - having done nothing wrong; **decree** - an official order from a king; **dominion** - the land a king rules; **signs and wonders** - amazing works only God can do.

Read-Aloud Story

Tell this in your own words, holding your open Bible. Pause at the ► marks for children to act out.

Daniel loved God and worked for King Darius. He was so honest and wise that the king wanted to put him in charge of the whole kingdom! But some other leaders were jealous. They watched Daniel closely and could not find anything wrong. “The only way to trap him,” they said, “is with the law of his God.”

So they tricked the king into signing a new law: “For thirty days, no one may pray to any god or person except the king. Anyone who does will be thrown to the lions!” ► (*roar quietly*) The king signed it, and it could not be changed.

Daniel heard about the law. What did he do? He went home, opened his windows, knelt down, and **prayed and gave thanks to God — three times a day, just as he always had.** ► (*kneel and fold your hands*) The jealous men saw him and ran to tell the king.

King Darius was very sad. He liked Daniel and tried all day to save him, but the law could not be changed. So Daniel was put into the lions’ den, and a stone was rolled over the opening. The king said, “May your God, whom you serve all the time, rescue you!” That night the king could not eat or sleep. ► (*toss and turn*)

Early in the morning the king hurried to the den and called, “Daniel! Has your God been able to save you?” And Daniel answered, “**My God sent his angel and shut the lions’ mouths!**” ► (*close your mouth tight*) The king was so happy! Daniel was lifted out without a scratch, because he trusted in his God. Then the king told everyone in his kingdom to honor the living God, who rescues.

K-2 Talk about it

1. Who did Daniel pray to?
2. How many times a day did Daniel pray?
3. Where was Daniel put?
4. Who shut the lions’ mouths?
5. When can you pray to God?

3-5 Think deeper

1. Why couldn’t the jealous leaders find anything wrong with Daniel?
2. Daniel prayed “as he had done previously.” Why does a habit of prayer help when hard times come?
3. Daniel was respectful to the king but still obeyed God. How can we do both?
4. The king called God “the living God.” What did he learn about God?
5. Some faithful people in the Bible were hurt, like Stephen (Acts 7). Is God still faithful then? Why?

Game: Sleeping Lions

Goal: Children are “lions” who must stay perfectly still while the “angel” keeps their mouths shut.

Supplies

- Open floor space
- Optional: a paper crown for the “king”

How to play

1. All the children lie down on the floor as sleeping lions with mouths closed.
2. One child is the “king” who walks among the lions. The king may say funny things, but may not touch anyone.
3. Any lion who moves, laughs, or opens their mouth gets up and becomes a helper king.
4. The last lion still “sleeping” says the memory verse and becomes the next king.
5. Before each round, everyone says together: “My God sent his angel and shut the lions’ mouths!”

Debrief: “It was hard to keep your mouth shut! God shut real lions’ mouths all night long. Nothing is too hard for Him.”

Small class or small room?

Play at tables: children rest their heads on their arms as lions. Or take turns being the king for 30 seconds each.

Safety: Kings may not touch, tickle, or step over lions. Keep the play area clear of chairs.

Memory Verse Game: Three Times a Day

Draw a big window on the board. Write the verse inside it. Say it together three times: once whispering, once in a normal voice, once loudly (morning, noon, and evening). Erase two or three words each round and repeat until the window is empty. **K-2** use Daniel 6:22a. **3-5** use Daniel 6:10b.

Craft: Paper-Plate Lion (Mouth Shut!)

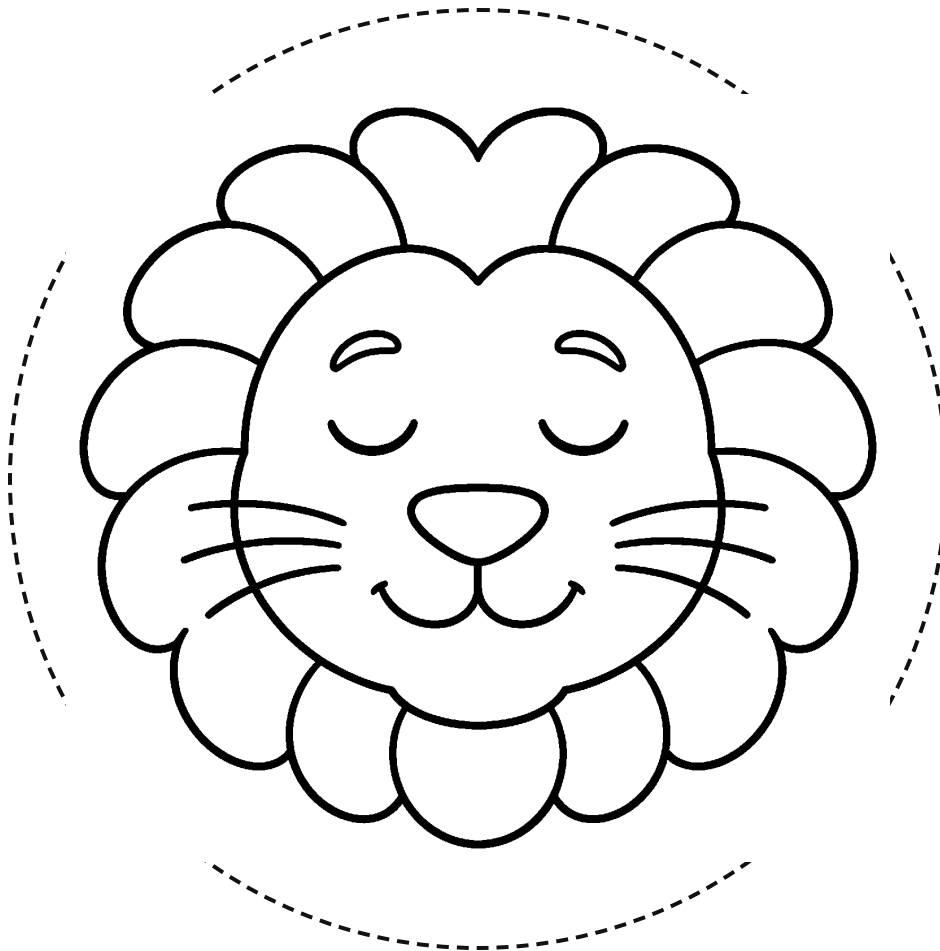
Supplies (per child)

- This page on card stock
- 1 paper plate (optional) and yellow or orange paper strips for a mane
- Crayons, scissors, glue stick

Steps

1. Color the lion's face and mane.
2. Cut out the lion on the dashed line. Glue it onto a paper plate if you have one.
3. Glue paper strips around the edge for a fluffy mane.
4. Notice the lion's mouth is shut, just as God shut the lions' mouths!
5. Write the verse on the back and hang it in your room.

K-2 Teachers may pre-cut the mane strips. Children can curl strips around a pencil. **3-5** Write on the back: three times today you will pray and one thing you will thank God for.



“My God sent his angel and shut the lions’ mouths.” Daniel 6:22

K-2 God Kept Daniel Safe

Color Daniel and the friendly, quiet lions.



“My God sent his angel and shut the lions’ mouths”

Daniel 6:22a

Name: _____

3-5

Daniel Prayed and Gave Thanks

Color Daniel praying by his window. On the back, draw something you can thank God for.



He got down on his knees three times a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as he had done previously.

Daniel 6:10b (ESV)

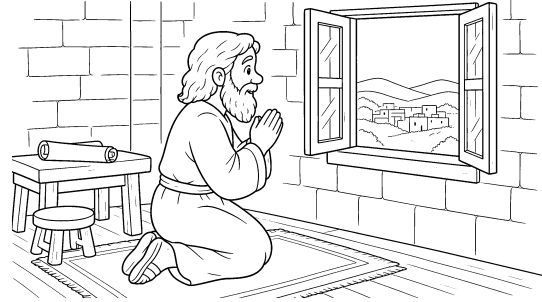
Name: _____

K-2 Put the Story in Order

Cut out the pictures. Glue them in order, or write 1, 2, 3, 4 in the circles.



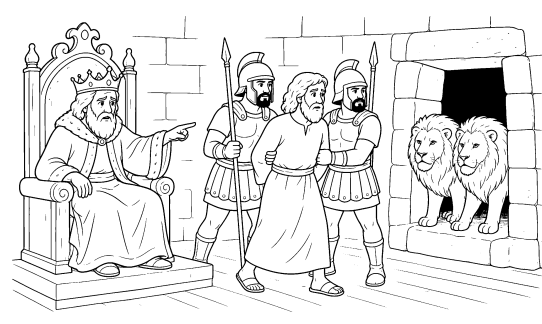
God shut the lions' mouths.



Daniel prayed by his window.



The king was glad. Daniel was safe!



The sad king had to send Daniel to the lions.



Name: _____

Word Search & Think About It

H	M	W	H	U	K	O	G	Y	M	O
B	L	N	I	D	A	R	I	U	S	P
C	C	B	K	N	W	A	Y	K	G	D
P	R	T	N	I	D	L	B	K	T	A
A	N	G	E	L	N	O	S	O	H	N
D	E	E	B	D	M	G	W	F	A	I
G	E	K	K	W	N	L	K	B	N	E
M	E	N	D	M	R	P	I	U	K	L
T	R	U	S	T	E	D	U	O	S	O
B	M	T	K	E	B	L	F	T	N	E
A	P	R	A	Y	E	D	H	E	C	S

Find these words

DANIEL
LIONS
PRAYED
KING
DARIUS
ANGEL
WINDOW
TRUSTED
DEN
THANKS

Words go across, down, or diagonally.

Think about it

1. How many times a day did Daniel pray? (Daniel 6:10)

2. What did God do for Daniel in the den? (Daniel 6:22)

3. Daniel prayed even when it was hard. When will you pray this week?

Name: _____

Memory Verse Cards

Print on card stock and cut apart. Send one home with each child.

**“My God sent his angel and
shut the lions’ mouths”**

Daniel 6:22a (ESV)

K-2

**“My God sent his angel and
shut the lions’ mouths”**

Daniel 6:22a (ESV)

K-2

**“He got down on his knees
three times a day and prayed
and gave thanks before his
God, as he had done
previously.”**

Daniel 6:10b (ESV)

3-5

**“He got down on his knees
three times a day and prayed
and gave thanks before his
God, as he had done
previously.”**

Daniel 6:10b (ESV)

3-5

**“My God sent his angel and
shut the lions’ mouths”**

Daniel 6:22a (ESV)

K-2

**“He got down on his knees
three times a day and prayed
and gave thanks before his
God, as he had done
previously.”**

Daniel 6:10b (ESV)

3-5

Take-Home: Pray Like Daniel



Dear family, today we learned how Daniel kept praying and giving thanks to God, even when it was against the law, and how God shut the lions' mouths (Daniel 6). This week, help your child build a habit of prayer: morning, mealtime, and bedtime.

Read together

- ☐ Daniel 6:1-10
- ☐ Daniel 6:16-23
- ☐ Psalm 55:17

Ask at dinner

- Why did the leaders want to trap Daniel?
- What did Daniel do when he heard the law?
- Who shut the lions' mouths?

Three times a day (check each prayer)

- ☐ Morning: thank God for a new day
- ☐ Mealtime: thank God for food
- ☐ Bedtime: pray for someone else
- ☐ Tell someone what God did for Daniel
- ☐ Say the memory verse to a grown-up

Answer Key (Teacher)

Sequencing (p. 10): prays (box 2) → sad king (box 4) → in the den with the lions (box 1) → safe with the glad king (box 3). Order: 2, 4, 1, 3.

Think about it (p. 11): 1. Three times a day; he prayed and gave thanks. 2. God sent his angel and shut the lions' mouths. 3. Answers vary.

H	M	W	H	U	K	O	G	Y	M	O
B	L	N	I	D	A	R	I	U	S	P
C	C	B	K	N	W	A	Y	K	G	D
P	R	T	N	I	D	L	B	K	T	A
A	N	G	E	L	N	O	S	O	H	N
D	E	E	B	D	M	G	W	F	A	I
G	E	K	K	W	N	L	K	B	N	E
M	E	N	D	M	R	P	I	U	K	L
T	R	U	S	T	E	D	U	O	S	O
B	M	T	K	E	B	L	F	T	N	E
A	P	R	A	Y	E	D	H	E	C	S