



Daniel and the Lion's Den – God is the One True God

Daniel 6

God Statement: God is With Us

KEY VERSE: "You will pass through deep waters. But I will be with you. You will pass through the rivers. But their waters will not sweep over you. You will walk through fire. But you will not be burned. The flames will not harm you."
(Isaiah 43:2, NIRV)

CHECK-IN

Classroom Teacher

(until 15 minutes after the start of each service)

As kids check-in, please have them wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before entering your classroom. Then they can participate in the various activities and games in your classroom. 10 minutes after the start of your service time, ask the kids to clean up their activities and toys so you can begin the Explore Activity at 15 minutes after the start of service.

EXPLORE ACTIVITY

Classroom Teacher

(15 minutes)

The Explore Activity is a chance to get the kids thinking about the upcoming Bible story for the day. Encourage your kids to engage with the activity as they prepare for the lesson.

DISCUSS: God is the One True God!

In today's lesson, we are going to learn about how God is the One True God!

SAY: What does the word 'true' mean? **Let kids respond.** That's right! True means honest and fact! It means accurate or that something is real. Have you ever questioned someone else or thought they might not be telling the truth? Maybe they don't seem real or seem to be acting a certain way that isn't really who they are. **Let a few kids respond.** Sometimes it can be hard to tell if someone is telling the truth or if they are honest.

Do you know who is always true? **Let kids respond – Jesus/God!** That’s right! God is always true! He is the one true God! We can trust Him, seek Him, and know He is who He says He is! He never fails and is always with us. He helps us in times of bad and good. He is always there. He is always true! Today we get to learn about another story where God protected someone and helped them! Before we learn about our story, let’s make a craft.

MAKE: Tissue Paper-Plate Lion!

To get the kids thinking about the lesson, they can do this activity!

Supplies: small tissue paper pieces and squares, paper plates, “God is With Us” sticker

Directions: Pass out one plate per child. Help them draw a lion face in the center (eyes, mouth, nose). Give them tissue paper pieces to make a mane around the face. Add the sticker to the front or back of the lion. Allow children to decorate their lions.

SAY: Today we get to make a special lion to remind us that God is the one true God. He is always with us! I wonder what this special lion has to do with our lesson today. Let’s find out after we finish our special craft.



LARGE GROUP

(25 minutes)

Each week, Large Group will consist of an introduction, worship, the Bible lesson, worship response, and the blessing.

WELCOME & EXPECTATIONS

Host

Depending on your age group, either find a designated space in your classroom or join the other classes for Large Group in the specified location.

As children enter into Large Group time, welcome and greet the children, telling them you're excited to have them joining this evening/morning.

Expectations Slide

Once everyone has found their seat, the host will use the Large Group expectations slide to go over the rules. Encourage various children to take turns reading the rules.

**** After Expectations, transition the power point to the "Worship" slide.****

KEY VERSE

Host

Before you start worship, introduce/review the key Bible verse for the quarter. This is a great opportunity for you to talk about the importance of God's Word and encourage the kids to work on memorizing the verse each week.

****Use the Key Verse Motions Video on Plex (or sent in weekly email) to learn the motions prior to Large Group.****

***"You will pass through deep waters. But I will be with you. You will pass through the rivers. But their waters will not sweep over you. You will walk through fire. But you will not be burned. The flames will not harm you."
(Isaiah 43:2, NIRV)***

**** After the Introduction, transition the power point to the Worship songs and invite the Worship Leader up front to lead the kids in worship.****

OPENING WORSHIP

Worship Leader

While the video is playing the opening worship songs, encourage the kids to sing and dance along. Don't forget to set the example by participating alongside them!

Kids may participate in the worship however they feel led. Encourage kids to find a way that helps them worship best but remind them that it's not time to goof off or talk to friends. If you have someone leading the worship up front, you can even invite a few kids to help.

TODAY'S WORSHIP SONGS:

- Same God
- Rescuer
- Closing: God is With Us

**** After Worship, transition the power point into the Bible Story video where the kids will hear about the lesson for the day.****

BIBLE STORY

Lesson Video

Remind the group before starting the video to follow the expectations for Large Group.

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: *Daniel and the Lion's Den – God is the One True God*

Encourage kids to listen and engage with the lesson as they watch the teaching video.

****After the video finishes, turn on soft worship music (with or without lyrics) to transition into Worship Response. This should be background music to help set the tone for a quiet reflection time with God.****

WORSHIP RESPONSE

Host

Worship Response is an opportunity for the kids to apply what they just learned and to respond to what God is doing in their life. *Have the kids sit in a place where they can be still and reflect independently.* Then read through the Worship Response prompts below as you lead the kids through the time.

DO: Lion Response

Supplies: One lion for each child, basket or pail, paper, crayons, markers

SAY: Did Daniel do the right thing even though it was difficult? Did someone try to get Daniel to do the wrong thing? Even if someone tries to get us to do the wrong thing, we do what is right with God's help just like Daniel did.

We saw in our story that King Darius wanted Daniel to pray to him. That was the wrong thing to do. When Daniel heard about this new law, he went home, opened his window, and prayed to God, just like he did every single day.

After God sent an angel to close the mouths of the lions to protect Daniel and the men in the lion's den, the king said 'no one in the land could ever say anything bad against

the Lord God'. God was with Daniel in the lion's den and Daniel continued to love the One True God.

Place the lions in a basket or bucket at the foot of the cross with some paper, crayons, or markers.

SAY: Today, we're going to write a note or draw a picture for someone to show them that God is the one true God. Before you write or draw think about how God is the one true God to you. Just like the men in the lion's den, we can tell people that there is only one true God. The God who created the world, and the God who created you is the one true God. Think about someone in your life that you want to tell that there is one TRUE God.

DIRECTIONS: Have the kids go to the cross to get a lion. Have markers, crayons, and pens available for the kids. Encourage them to write a note or draw a picture to show that there is one true God.

SAY: The men in the lion's den knew the one true God. Do you know the one true God? Do not forget to take your note or drawing home so you can give it to the person you wrote it to and tell them about God.

Close time in prayer.

******After Worship Response, transition the power point to the Offering slides.******

OFFERING

Host

Before closing large group, take a moment to explain that every week, we provide an opportunity for our Woodmen Kids to participate in tithing. We believe God is our provider, and it is our privilege to give back to God what He has so graciously given us. Then, remind kids that if anyone brought an offering, now is the time to come forward to donate.

Ask a child to come up and pray for the offering.

******After Offering, transition the power point to the "Announcement" slide. The host will discuss any current announcements.******

ANNOUNCEMENTS & SPECIAL MISSIONS FOCUS – Feeding Families

Host

Take this opportunity to cover any announcements and special missions focus for the kids, such as upcoming events or reminders, like bringing food donations for Feeding Families. Use the slides provided in the Power Point to display important announcements.

SAY: I'm thinking of a number between _____ and _____ (*think of a number range that includes the number of lbs collected for the past week of the Feeding Families Competition*). Can anyone guess what number I'm thinking of? **Let the kids respond.** The number I'm thinking of is _____ (*share the number of lbs collected so far for Feeding Families*).

Does anyone know why I might be thinking of this number? **Choose someone to respond.** That's right! _____ (*insert # of lbs raised*) is the number of pounds we have collected towards our goal of 4,000 lbs for Feeding Families. Way to go!

Last week we began our competition to raise 4,000 lbs of non-perishable food items for Feeding Families, but we're not done yet! For the next two weeks we need you to fill those green Feeding Families bags with items such as bagged rice, bagged beans, pasta and pasta sauce, canned chicken, tuna, breakfast bars, and granola bars. As you fill your bags, think of all the individuals you can help to get the food items they need— individuals in your schools, in the church, and in your community.

Each week as we collect food items, we will add a different animal to our scale to represent the number of pounds we have collected. This week we will be adding a _____. **Choose someone to add the animal to the scale and to pray that we will not only meet, but exceed our goal for Feeding Families.**

If everyone brings a food item, can you imagine how many pounds we can collect!?! Let's continue to work together towards our goal!

Have a child come up and pray for Feeding Families.

******After Announcements, transition the power point to the "Blessing" slide. The host will lead the class in receiving the blessing for the day.******

BLESSING

Host

Read the verse and blessing over the kids before closing Large Group. Encourage the kids to stand and open their hands to receive the blessing as a truth that they can take with them this week and hide in their hearts.

SAY: May you know that God is the one true God. May you know that God wants you to know Him and follow Him.

SMALL GROUP

Classroom Teachers

(10 minutes)

Younger Kids 4-K:

The Small Group discussion is a chance for the kids to discuss what they've just learned and to challenge them to think deeper. If children need a quick break before doing questions, have them do some jumping jacks or exercises before doing small group questions to help them refocus.

1. **What did you learn about God from our story today?** (God is the One True God.)

2. **Read/ Recap today's story: Daniel 6:19-23**
 - **Why was Daniel thrown into the lion's den?** (Because he did what was right and still prayed to God.)

 - **Did Daniel get hurt from the lions?** (No, God sent an angel to close the lion's mouth to protect Daniel.)

 - **Why didn't they see any wounds on Daniel (V.23)?** (Because Daniel trusted in God.)

3. **Daniel had faith in God because He knew that God was the one true God.**
 - **What does it mean that God is the one true God?**
 - **How can we live our life differently like Daniel, knowing that God is the one true God?** Spend a couple of minutes discussing as a group. Be vulnerable with your students and share how you live your life with this truth. What is different about you?

Close small group in prayer. *Take a few minutes to share prayer requests as a group. This is a great time to write requests down on the prayer tags for leaders to take home!*

Older Kids 1st-4th:

Encourage the kids to utilize their personal Bibles or the classroom Bibles to read the Scripture as a group.

1. **What did you learn about God from our story today?** (God is the One True God.)
2. **Read/ Recap today's story: Daniel 6:19-23**
 - **Why was Daniel thrown into the lion's den?** (Because he did what was right and still prayed to God.)
 - **Did Daniel get hurt from the lions?** (No, God sent an angel to close the lion's mouth to protect Daniel.)
 - **Why didn't they see any wounds on Daniel (V.23)?** (Because Daniel trusted in God.)
3. **Read verse 27.**
 - **What do you think this verse means?**
 - **What miraculous signs and wonders has God done?** Spend a couple of minutes discussing as a group.
4. **Daniel had faith in God because He knew that God was the one true God.**
 - **What does it mean that God is the one true God?**
 - **How can we live our life differently like Daniel, knowing that God is the one true God?** Spend a couple of minutes discussing as a group. Be vulnerable with your students and share how you live your life with this truth. What is different about you?

Close small group in prayer. *Take a few minutes to share prayer requests as a group. This is a great time to write requests down on the prayer tags for leaders to take home!*

RESPOND ACTIVITY

Classroom Teacher

(10 minutes)

DISCUSS:

If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the kids can participate in this activity.

PLAY: Old Testament Books of the Bible Cube Race

Supplies: 2 bags of Old Testament books of the Bible cubes

Directions: Have children get into groups of 4-5. Each group will get a chance to race against another group. Give two groups block bags. Set a timer and see how quickly each team can finish stacking the blocks in order from beginning to end (the books of the Old Testament need to be in order). Have children help their teams to remember what order the books of the Old Testament go in.

SAY: God is the one true God! He is always with us and He wants us to seek Him and look to Him in good times and bad times too! Did you know that God gave us something wonderful that we can use to learn more about Him and to grow closer to Him? Do you know what it is? **Let kids respond.** The Bible! That's right! He can help us grow with Him through His word, the Big God Story, the Bible! Let's see if we can have a race and find all the Old Testament books of the Bible.

CHECK-OUT

Classroom Teacher

(end of service)

As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue participating in the Respond Activities or the classroom games and toys.