



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.

WORSHIP & LARGE GROUP RULES

Worship Leader & Host

WORSHIP

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!

Feel free to modify your worship time for what works best for your age group. You can find different ways to encourage the kids to participate by giving them instruments or showing them simple hand motions. You can also limit how many songs you choose to play, if it seems like the kids are not able to stay focused the entire time.

TODAY'S WORSHIP SONGS:

- God is With Me
- Rescuer

LARGE GROUP RULES

Once everyone has found their seat, play Large Group Rules video in the PowerPoint provided. If needed, reinforce the rules after the video plays.

**** After Worship & Large Group Rules, transition the PowerPoint to the Mail Time & Wardrobe of Wonder slides. ****

MAIL TIME & WARDROBE OF WONDER

Host

MAIL TIME!

Find the Mail Time envelope in your curriculum supplies.

Pick one child to hide the envelope and another child to find it. Give the first child about 30 seconds to hide the envelope while the other child closes his/her eyes. After the envelope is hidden, the second child can search for the envelope while the class says "hot" or "cold" to give them clues if they're getting closer or further away.

Have the two kids stand in front of the class and hold the verse page (inside the envelope) so everyone can see it.

****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)***

WARDROBE OF WONDER

The Wardrobe of Wonder is an opportunity to get the younger kids engaged in the lesson by playing a guessing game to determine what the “What’s It” is inside the wardrobe each week.

Choose one child to “spy” on the What’s It by peeking inside the wardrobe. Remind the other children to look away and to not peek. Have the peeker whisper the identity of the What’s It in the host’s ear to ensure he/she saw it correctly.

What’s It: Lion

Now, invite the class to raise their hand and guess the identity of the What’s It by asking yes-or-no questions about it. Allow the child who peeked to help answer the questions. Accept around three questions and then three guesses. You can allow the kids to whisper their guess to their neighbor to allow for more sharing before you reveal the item. Retrieve the What’s It from the wardrobe and allow the class to look at it/pass it around. Thank the volunteer and allow them to sit back down.

SAY: What do you guys see? It’s a lion! Who here has ever seen a lion in real life before? Are lions big or small? **Let kids respond.** Lions are usually pretty big. They are big and beautiful animals and I love to look at lions from afar. I would never want to be in a cage with a lion. That just seems pretty scary. Do you think you would be scared if you were in the same room or cage as a lion? **Let kids respond.** Wow, you guys seem pretty brave. Well today we are going to hear from Daniel and he was in a lion’s den! Let’s dive into God’s word to discover more about why Daniel was in the lion’s den and see how brave he was!

***** After the Mail Time & Wardrobe of Wonder, Younger Kids classes transition to 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!*

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 Card Race

Supplies: 2 bags of Old Testament books of the Bible cards and mat

Directions: Split the class into two teams. Have an LIT or helper sit in each group. Give each helper a bag with Old Testament matching cards and a number mat. Have the helper flip over the cards face down and shuffle them around. Allow the children to flip over one card at a time and match them to the corresponding number on the chart. The LIT or helper can then read the cards in order. The first team to finish wins.

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.