

Daniel Stands Firm in His Prayers to God ■ Lesson 11

Bible Reference: Daniel 6:11-15

Bible Point: God wants us to pray no matter what other people say
Bible Verse: “Never Stop Praying” (1 Thessalonians 5:17)

Preparing for the Lesson: Prayer

- Read Daniel 6:10.
- Think about how faithful to pray you might be in Daniel’s situation.
- Pray: God, help me to pray and trust you openly, even when it’s uncomfortable or inconvenient. Give me the courage I need to stand for you. As the little ones in my care face challenging situations, help them turn to you in prayer.

Engage Pre-Story:

‘Don’t Stop Praying’....Supplies: Index Cards, Markers

Before lesson, draw either a stop sign or praying hands on each of 20 index cards. Place the cards picture-side down in rows on a flat surface. Children will take turns picking up one card at a time. If a child gets a stop sign, he or she must place the card face down on the table. If the child picks up a praying hands card, he or she can keep the card and look at another card. Continue playing until only stop sign cards remain. Have children put all the cards face down again and mix them up well with the stop cards. Put the cards into rows and play again. Tell the kids that today they will hear about how mean men tried to get Daniel to stop praying. Remind them that

God wants us to pray no matter what other people say.

Share the Story:

Check out the lesson video on dbKids.org. Below is a simplified version of the story found in Genesis. Depending on your children’s ability to understand, you may lead them using the following poem or read directly from the Word of God. Other options would be to find a children’s story bible to read from, watch a short video about Daniel, or act out the story with older family members.

Begin by asking the children what they remember from last week’s bible lesson. They may even want to act out the story thus far.

Sit with children in a circle on the floor and prompt them to recall the facts of the story thus far.

Get the Bible Out and Read Daniel 6:11-15

Our Bible story comes from the book of Daniel. The story tells us that Daniel prayed to God three times a day.

I'm going to ask a few story questions:

- **What did Daniel do every day?** "Daniel prayed,"
- **Who can explain King Darius' new law?** "The law said you could only pray to King Darius,"
- **Why were the governors so mad at Daniel?** "Because Daniel was their boss" or "Because they were jealous of Daniel," and have them stand beside the picture of the evil governors.
- **What do you think Daniel's punishment will be if he doesn't pray to the king?** "He'll go to the lions."

Say: **Daniel loved God and wanted to pray only to him. Daniel was also a very wise man, because he knew that God is bigger and stronger than a law or even a king!**

Question:

- **Do you think the king's new law stopped Daniel from praying? Why or why not?** (No, because Daniel loved God so much; yes, because Daniel was afraid of the king.)

Say: **Daniel really understood that it is important to pray. There is someone else in the Bible who knew that it is important to pray. That was Jesus. Jesus knew what God wanted. Jesus knew God wanted him to pray no matter what other people said. Daniel knew, too. God wants us to pray no matter what other people say.**