

## Daniel and the King Give Thanks ■ Lesson 13

### Bible Reference: Daniel 6:25-27

**Bible Point:** God wants us to pray and give thanks

**Bible Verse:** “Never Stop Praying” (1 Thessalonians 5:17)

### Preparing for the Lesson: Prayer

- Read 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18.
- Consider what prayer has to do with being joyful and with being thankful in all circumstances.
- Pray: Dear God, I thank you for all you’ve done for me. Help me be faithful to you in my prayers and thanksgiving. Help me be as true to you as Daniel was. And help the children in this class see how important it is for them to be thankful.

### Engage Pre-Story:

‘Special Delivery’....Supplies: index cards, markers, envelopes, stickers, shoe box, white paper, scissors, pencils, pens, glue

before class cover a shoebox with white paper. Cut a slit in the top of the box for children to slide envelopes through. Write the words “Special Delivery” on the box, and draw red hearts to decorate it.

Create a post office in one corner of your room. On a table, set out index cards, markers, pencils, pens, glue, envelopes, and the *shiny ribbons*. On one corner of the table, place the special delivery shoe box, the *lion stamp*, and the *ink pad*. Have children write or draw thank-you cards to God. Have each child draw something he or she is thankful for. Suggest ideas such as their families, church, friends, special pets, health, favorite foods, love, Jesus, and the Bible. Children may decorate their notes with pieces of the *shiny ribbons*.

Let kids seal their cards in envelopes. Have them use stickers as postage. Then allow children to “cancel” their postage stickers by stamping them with the *lion stamp*. Allow the children to “mail” their cards by sliding them into the special delivery box. Save the thank-you cards for the “Delivering Thanks” activity.

## 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 6:25-27**

#### **Questions:**

- **Who was the man who'd always pray every night and every day?** (Daniel)
- **Who was the guy who wore a crown and told the people they had to bow down?** (King Darius)
- **What evil men thought up a plan to get Daniel sent to the lions' den?** (The governors)
- **What was the law the king arranged, and what did it say that couldn't be changed?** (That everyone had to pray to the king)
- **Why did Daniel break that law, and why did he face the lion's jaw?** (Because he'd pray only to God no matter what.)
- **When Daniel prayed inside the den, how did God answer? What happened then?** (God sent an angel to close the lions' mouths.)

**Conclusion: Daniel was so thankful to God for saving his life! And King Darius was thankful that his friend Daniel had been saved. In fact, King Darius was so thankful, he made another new law. The new law said that all people were to honor and praise God. The new law said God lives forever, God saves people, and God does mighty miracles. The king read this new law to everyone. King Darius said thank you to God with his voice. Because God does mighty things and loves us so much, God wants us to pray and give thanks.**

*Daniel and the King Give Thanks (Daniel 6:25-27)*

