

## DANIEL—Prayer In All Circumstances

### 1) Ritual

This week's focus is on prayer. Please make sure to pray to begin. Lighting the candle and setting the altar table are physical acts of prayer because they help connect you with God.

### 2) Check-in

The prayer activity includes plenty of time for check-in. Perhaps start with “Thumbs-Up, Thumbs-Down, Thumbs-To-The-Side” can tell kids they will get more talk time during the activity.

### 3) Review the Story

Please invite your kids to share their first impressions from today's Bible story.

#### GOD'S BOTTOM LINE PROMISE

“God rescue, and God saves.” [Daniel 6:26]

#### BACKGROUND [Daniel 6]

An interpreter of dreams who was delivered from the lions' den.

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Daniel have been kidnapped from his home in Israel and made to serve in the court the Babylonian court. God gave him the ability to interpret the dreams of Babylonian rulers. Because Daniel refused to pray to the king as if to a god, he was placed in a den of lions, but God preserved his life. Daniel's final visions depicted the rise and fall of empires and the ultimate victory of God.

[Adapted from [enterthebible.org](http://enterthebible.org)]

#### VIDEOS

- *Read Scripture: Daniel* (The Bible Project): This video outlines the entire book of Daniel and the experience of our ancestors in Exile. <https://youtu.be/9cSC9uobtPM>

### 4) Start with Sharing—Prayers

While kids are beading, discuss the opening questions. **Bonus ice-breaker:** tell a story of circumstances where you prayed with all your might.

### 5) Activity—Prayer Beads

Kids will be making prayer beads as reminders to pray in all circumstances and also as a reminder to pray regularly, as Daniel did. (See the example given during Large Group worship.) Kids will use **4 Colored Beads** and **12-15 Black Beads** and **1 Cross** and **4-6 Silver Spacer Beads**. It does not matter which colored beads the kids choose. Each colored bead stands for one letter in the ACTS Prayer. After kids complete their prayer beads, have them pray an ACTS prayer.

### 6) Further Discussion—Back to the Story

If you have time, read the Bible verses and discuss the questions.

### 7) Pray and Bless

Hopefully you've spent some time praying during the activity. If not, end with prayers using your new prayer beads. Bless them with the reminder, “God, hear our prayers in all place, times, and circumstances. God, give us strength. Amen.”

# The Story of our People

## Daniel

### Daniel 6



Write or draw about things you liked or learned from the story. What surprised you? What do you wonder about?

Blessings and Bruises; How were you with God today? How was God with you today? Questions? Wonderings? Write or draw here.



**FUN FACT:** Daniel was a vegetarian. Not for health, but to stay faithful to God. God had instructed our ancestors to eat only certain foods prepared in a special way.

#### START WITH SHARING

- + What prayers do you have memorized? Who taught you to pray? When do you pray: Before meals? Before bed? At church? Other times?
- + If you were Daniel, how do you think you would have responded to King Darius' decree that everyone should pray only to him?
- + Where is it most difficult for you to stand up for what you believe in: With family? At school? With friends? On teams or clubs? Other?
- + What gives you strength to stand up for yourself and God?

#### GOD'S BOTTOM LINE PROMISE:

*"God rescues and God saves."* [Daniel 6:26]





The Story of  
Our People

Daniel

Daniel 6



"Although Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he continued to go to his house, which had windows in its upper room open toward Jerusalem, and to get down on his knees three times a day to pray to his God and praise him, just as he had done previously." [Daniel 6:10]

**BACK** **THE STORY**

### PRAYER BEADS

Our ancestors have been using beads to help them in their daily prayer for centuries. (See attached activity.)

The ACTS acrostic is very helpful way to compose prayers. ACTS stands for:

- ❖ A doration (Praise)
- ❖ C onfession (Sorry)
- ❖ T hanksgiving (Thanks)
- ❖ S upplication (Request)



"The chief official gave them new names: to Daniel, the name Belteshazzar." [Daniel 1:7]

Have you ever been given a name you didn't choose? What do you liked to be called?



"So the king gave the order, and they brought Daniel and threw him into the Lion's Den." [Dan 6:16]

•When have you been unfairly punished?

Then king Darius wrote to all peoples and nations of every language throughout the whole world." [Dan 6:25]

•What would you like every person in the whole world to know about God?

**You are a precious child of God! And we love you very much!**

## ACTS

## Prayer Ideas

### Adoration

(Praises, God-moments)

Praise God for who God is for you and how God has shown up for you. *Example: "God, you were there for me this week in the forgiveness of my friend."*

### Confession

(Hurts, Sorrys)

Be honest with God about your hurts, both given and received. Ask for healing and forgiveness. *Example: "I know my words hurt their feelings. Forgive me and help me make up with them."*

### Thanksgiving

(Joys, Thanks)

Recognize what you're grateful for in your life and in the world around you. *Example: "Thank you God for sunshine today and the warmth of my family."*

### Supplication

(Needs, Requests)

Pray for the needs of others and yourself. *Example: "God please help my grandpa feel better."*

