

Story of Daniel and the Lion's Den + CRAFT

A Story about being Persistent in Prayer

Have you ever prayed so hard for something that meant a lot to you? Maybe you prayed very hard for God to help someone who was sick? Or you prayed for God to help you through another hard time?

A man by the name of Daniel was once in a very bad and scary place . . . a lion's den! He used the persistence of prayer to help him survive.



Let me tell you about Daniel:

Daniel was an honest and hard worker who worked for the king, whose name was King Darius. Daniel was always given the most important jobs, which made the other workers of the king jealous. King Darius really liked Daniel. He knew that Daniel was a good worker so he decided to put Daniel in charge of the whole country. The other king's servants were very jealous of Daniel and they tried to find something that would get Daniel in trouble. But Daniel prayed and obeyed God so they couldn't find anything bad about him to get him fired.

Finally these men said to each other, "We can't find any reason for the king to fire Daniel. The only way we could get him to disobey the king is if we made a law against his god." So they went to King Darius and said, "O great king, you are so wonderful that no one should pray to anyone but you."

The king said, "That sounds like a great idea!" Then the men continued, "All of your workers have agreed that this should be the law and that anyone that prays to any other god should be thrown into the lion's den."

The workers lied and said that everyone who worked for the king agreed, but of course they never talked to Daniel because they knew he wouldn't agree. The king didn't know this, so he made the law and it couldn't be changed.

When Daniel heard about the new law he did what he always did. He went home and three times that day he went down on his knees and prayed to God, just like he always had.

The men went to Daniel's house and found him praying and asking God for help. So they ran straight to the king and told him, "Your worker Daniel is ignoring your command. We have seen him praying to his God three times today."

When the king heard this he was very sad. He really liked Daniel and he didn't want him to die. He tried everything to get the law changed to stop Daniel from being thrown in the lions' den, but the men came to him and reminded him that the law could not be changed and Daniel would have to be punished.

So at the end of the day the king gave the order, and they threw Daniel into the lions' den. The king said to Daniel, "I hope your God who you serve and pray to will rescue you!"

A large, heavy stone was rolled in front of the den and the king went back to his palace with tears in his eyes. That night King Darius couldn't eat or sleep he was so worried for Daniel.

The next day, as soon as the sun came up the king got up and ran to the lions' den. As he got closer he shouted, "Daniel, has your God who you serve and pray to rescued you from the lions?" The king waited quietly for a response.

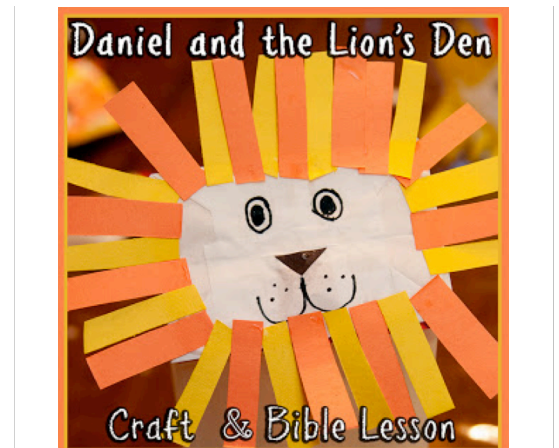
Then all of a sudden Daniel said, "O king, live forever! I have prayed and prayed and prayed all night, and my God sent an angel and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me because I have only prayed and done nothing wrong."

The king jumped with joy and immediately ordered that Daniel be removed from the den. And when Daniel was lifted from the den, there wasn't even a scratch on him because he was persistent in his prayers to God.

Daniel and the Lion's Den Craft

Supplies Needed:

- Markers (Brown or Black)
- School Glue
- Scissors
- Construction Paper (Black, Yellow, Orange and Red)
- White or Brown Paper Bags



1. Using the black construction paper, cut out triangle shapes to be used as the lions' noses.



2. Using the yellow and orange papers, cut strips about 1/2-3/4" wide. If you have time and the kids are older, you may even want to let the kids cut out the strips themselves.



3. Open up the folded end of the paper bag. Draw an outline of this rectangular shape and cut out rectangles from red construction paper, (to be used as inside of lion's mouth). Glue the red rectangle in place and then draw the inside of a mouth, (teeth, tongue).



4. Carefully fold the mouth back closed and let the kids glue on a black triangular nose. Draw a face.



5. Next put a thin line of glue around the outer edge of the lion's face. Let the kids use the colored strips to design and glue down the lion's mane.

