

DANIEL

THREE WEEK SERIES

“Mum, Dad, everyone else is doing this!”....

Have you ever used this as a reason in your argument and thinking?

Is it always best to do and behave like everyone else? Is the majority or the popular choice correct?

As our world moves further and further away from faithfulness and belief in God, should we too follow the crowd?

Daniel faced similar problems, and we will learn from some of the challenges he faced:

Chapter One: Eat the King’s food or die

Chapter Three: Worship the King’s idol or die

Chapter Six: Don’t pray to your God. If you do, you die.

Lesson 3

“A Reputation of Faithfulness”



Today we are continuing our series from the Book of Daniel.

Do you remember last week's lesson? Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego had to make a difficult choice – worship the gold statue or be killed in the fiery furnace. They refused, because they knew it was wrong. They trusted God instead, and he saved them.

Today we will learn about another difficult situation, one that may happen to us too, though hopefully never to such extremes.

The Story: After King Belshazzar's death, Darius became the king. Darius had a lot of respect for Daniel; in fact, he wanted Daniel to rule the entire kingdom. Naturally, many of the king's subjects were upset by the favour Daniel received. They were already jealous of Daniel because of his high position in the kingdom as he was originally just a captive from Judah. This was too much. So, they made a clever plan to get rid of Daniel once and for all.

Read Daniel Chapter 6 together. Suggestion: Use the International Children's Bible version.

Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hErz8MDjdtc>



Questions:

1. How did the evil men know that Daniel would not give up praying to God? *(Because of Daniel's reputation for being faithful to God.)*
2. Did the king want to throw Daniel in the den of lions? *(No.)*
3. Then why did he? *(He was bound by the law he had just made.)*
4. How did Daniel show he had faith in God after he heard the new law? *(He went home and prayed anyway, just as he had always done.)*
5. Daniel said he was saved because he was found innocent in God's eyes, innocent of what? *(Doing harm to the king, not being faithful to God.)*
6. What are some situations where people will try to stop you living your faith?

Explanation:

Daniel knew that the new law meant death but he would not give up his faith, even for his own life. We will never know if Daniel went into the lion's den believing he would survive. However, we do know that he prayed to God for help. It was because of his faith in God that he was not afraid to endure extreme pain or even death. Daniel knew that he was in God's care, and that God would only allow what He wanted to actually happen to him. Having faith

in God means to allow God to be in control of our lives. If we faithfully obey and give Him our praise, He will give us the courage to do whatever He wants us to do, or go wherever He wants us to go.

Memory Verse:

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance." James 1:2-3 NIV

Prayer:

Dear God, please show us how to **always** be **faithful** to you. Help us **never** to deny our faith. Help us to build a strong **reputation** that honours you.

Activity:

- 1) There are two printable activity sheets, to help us remember the lessons from Daniel's life. You can ask your parents to upload your finished work to WhatsApp.
- 2) Print the Reputation 04.pdf. Write down some ways for building a reputation for faith. Example: Pray to God daily. Memorize his Word.

Sources:

<https://www.kidssundayschool.com/gradeschool/lessons/old-testament/the-prophet-daniel/a-reputation-of-faith>