

CROSSOVER

WEEK 4

BIG IDEA

God gives extraordinary help.

BIBLE

Daniel in the Lions' Den: Daniel 6;
(Isaiah 41:10)

MUSIC | The Lion and the Lamb

- We're going to warm up today with a little worship song I bet some of you will know. It's about how strong God is and how much amazing help God can give us! If you know the words, sing along! If not, listen to the music while you dance!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play [this video](#) of "The Lion and the Lamb."

ACTIVITY | Origami Lion

- We are going to talk about lions today. **What sound does a lion make?**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Pass out the lion printable. Ask the kids to color the page and follow the folding instructions (adult helpers will know this shape as the classic fortune teller/chatterbox/whirlybird/cootie catcher shape). When folded correctly, the page will create a lion's face. Allow the kids time to try and fold the paper on their own. Some may be able to, some may not. Then, give step-by-step instructions on how to properly fold it. Here is a [quick tutorial](#) for those not so familiar with how to fold it.

OBJECT LESSON | Healthy vs. Unhealthy ▲

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Set up two snack options – one healthy, like fresh fruits or vegetables, and one not-so-healthy food, like Flamin' Hot Cheetos or a doughnut – where the kids can see.*
- **Okay, which snack would you rather have?** Why is that? It is pretty clear which choice most of you would prefer to have as a snack. It's natural for us to choose something that tastes better even if it's not the healthiest option available. It can be hard to make a choice we know is good for us, especially when there's something more exciting to have instead.
- Now, could you eat these things every day for breakfast, lunch, or dinner? Maybe, maybe not. Why do you think that is? Too much of this kind of food might make your stomach hurt.
- Today's Bible story is about a guy who could have chosen to go with what was easier or better. But he chose to do something that was less tempting, something pretty difficult. God gave him extraordinary help to make a wise choice, and when he did make the better choice, God was so happy.

THE BIG IDEA | God gives extraordinary help. ▲

"God gives us extraordinary help."

SO WHAT?

VIDEO | Crossover, Episode 4 ▲

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play this week's [teaching video](#).*

SCRIPTURE | Daniel 6

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *This Bible story from Daniel 6 will be told today rather than read directly from the Bible:*
 - Daniel was a man who obeyed God. He also happened to be friends with three guys who you might remember: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego! **Do you remember what happened to them?** (*Recap last week's story.*)
 - So as Daniel grew older, he also grew in his faith. He had many important jobs and he was good at them. He even was well-liked by a king named Darius. He was a pretty popular guy. Other men became jealous of Daniel. They didn't understand Daniel and his love for God. Just like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused to worship the statue, Daniel refused to give up praying to God. He prayed to God every single day.
 - These men who were jealous of Daniel were not followers of God, so it made them angry that Daniel prayed every day. It also made them jealous that King Darius liked Daniel so much. So, the others tricked the king into throwing Daniel into a den full of hungry lions for breaking this silly new law that no one was allowed pray. Daniel was afraid, obviously, because hungry lions are super scary, but he continued to pray, even though he was in there with the lions. And guess what? God heard Daniel's prayers and sent an angel to protect Daniel and shut the lions' mouths. Daniel was not harmed by the lions. God helped Daniel, who had put God first in his life.

VIDEO | Daniel and the Lions' Den



- Let's watch a little video that gives us a recap of that story.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** [Play this video](#), "Daniel and the Lions' Den" from PursueGOD Kids.

QUESTION | Breaking the Rules

- **When is it okay to break the rules?** Now, whoa, wait a second. This is pretty scary territory. Breaking the rules isn't okay, right? But Daniel knew the king's new rule about no prayer went against what God said.
- **Can you think of any time when it might be more important to do what's right than follow the rules?** I can think of one example. Let's say you are told not to ever, ever touch the phone. But then there's an emergency – maybe you see fire in a neighbor's house – and you're the only one around who can call 911. Should you touch the phone in that case?
- Yeah, I think you should probably do it, too. Well, Daniel felt his need to pray to God was just as important as that, so he broke that rule. And you know what? God agreed!

SCRIPTURE | Isaiah 41:10

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Read this Bible verse.*
- Daniel was in a really scary spot. Pretty much as scary as it gets: hungry lions were right there sharing a space with him. They needed something to eat, and he didn't have anything at all to defend himself with. **But what did he have?** That's right, he had God. He was literally facing lions, but he did not need to be afraid. God would help him.
- And God did help Daniel, right? God was, like it says in this Bible verse from the book of Isaiah, holding him up with a righteous (*or victorious, depending on your translation*) right hand.

NOW WHAT?

PRAYER

- God, thank You for the story of Daniel and the lion's den. Thank You for the example we see in Daniel and how even though it wasn't easy, Daniel knew that continuing to pray to You was important. Thank You for always being a source of help, peace, courage, and strength. . . everything we need to go from everyday to extraordinary!

SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCUSSION

- **What made the men angry at Daniel?**
- **How did Daniel know God would help him in the lion's den?**
- **Who appeared to Daniel in the lion's den?**
- **How does the verse Isaiah 41:10 relate to today's Bible story?**
- **Have you ever been made fun of or disliked because of your relationship with God?**
- **When you are faced with a situation like that, is it easy for you to go straight to prayer?**
- **How do you know God will be there to help you no matter what?**

ACTIVITY | Note Cards to God

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Hand out a note card, envelope, and pen to each kid. Each of them will spend some time writing a letter (or drawing a picture) to God, asking for help in a specific situation in their lives.*
- God provided help for Daniel during a time he needed it most. But Daniel made a habit of talking to God each and every day. So, when he was in trouble and needed help, he was used to praying and talking to God. There are lots and lots of different ways to talk to God. One fun way that might be different from the type of praying you're used to is to write God a letter or draw God a picture of what you need!
- Let's spend some time right now praying and asking God to help us in a situation where we need help!

Supplies

- Lion printout
- coloring picture
- bananas
- donut holes
- notecards

