



WEEK THREE – NOVEMBER 2025 – PRETEEN

Bible Story: *Daneil + The Lions' Den | Daniel 6*

Conversation Starter: *When have you felt alone?*

Memory Verse: *“Those who trust in the Lord will receive new strength. They will fly as high as eagles. They will run and not get tired. They will walk and not grow weak.”- Isaiah 40:31 (NirV)*

Insight: *Identity Based on God's Image – I am created in the image of God and have unique potential and worth*

Application: *Confidence – Living like you believe God is with you*

Series Overview: God chose a people and promised through them to bless the whole world. And God fulfilled that promise by sending Jesus to rescue and redeem us. When we begin to understand this story and allow it to inform everything in our lives, we can live from a place of quiet confidence, knowing God is always with us and is able to work every single thing we face into a beautiful pattern for our good. This month, we're exploring some larger-than-life characters from God's story who lived during the decline of Israel and Judah and the following exile. These individuals chose to—or failed to—place the full weight of their lives on trust in God. Through stories of Elijah, Jonah, Daniel, Esther, and Nehemiah we see how making choices from a foundation of trust changes everything about the way you live.

8:45 - 9:05 | 10:45 – 11:05 | EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITY

Connection Centers

Connect: a time that invites kids to share with others and leaders

What You Need: Activity Bins + Coloring Sheets (find on your shelves in space)

What You Do:

- *PRE-CONNECTION TIME*
 - **Before kids arrive, pray for your group before they arrive. Pray for kids who will visit your group for the first time. Thank God that He goes with you through every moment of your life. Ask God to help the preteens know that He is with them, and to walk confidently into all situations fully aware of His presence. Ask God to raise up a generation of preteens who love Him more than approval, status, or likes. Pray that they'd become aware of the Holy Spirit. Ask God to give them boldness to hear Him and follow Him in every tough moment—online and in person.**
- *DURING CONNECTION TIME*
 - Greet each child by name and with a high five or fist bump!
 - **Make sure to grab second sticker from the child + place it on your sticker sheet**
 - Invite kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
 - Pull out your activity bins + set aside some coloring sheets for kids to partake in your small group space
 - Ask questions in order to connect with + get to know your few as you partake in activities alongside them...you can use these :
 - *What is one skill or talent that someone taught you this year, and why are you thankful they took the time to teach you?*
 - *Think of a small, helpful thing you do every day that you are thankful you can do. (Like walking to the bus, packing your lunch, or remembering to pray.)*

- *When you are having a tough day, what's the best thing a friend or leader can say to you?*
- *Would you rather be famous for winning a million dollars or for doing something amazing that helps the whole world?*
- *If you had to choose: never use a screen again or never eat your favorite food again? Why?*
- *AFTER CONNECTION TIME*
 - *Use this time to review over how to be successful in small group time as well as Flatirons Kids by using the SG Structure 101 sheet featured on your activity shelf*
 - Go over each rule to create a great small group experience
 - Transition into the Opening Small Group Activity

9:05 - 9:20 | 11:05 – 11:20 | OPENING SMALL GROUP

OPENING ACTIVITY

What You Need: Blindfolds; Cones; Floortape

What You Do:

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive with a high-five, fist bump, or a wave.
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Before you begin:
 - Mark a start and finish line in your group area.
 - Set up the cones or various obstacle course objects in between the lines.
- Divide the kids into teams of 4-6.
- Explain the game:
 - “For the first part, one kid from each team will be blindfolded. When I say ‘go,’ they will try to walk through the obstacle course (alone and without any help or guidance) for the first half of the course.”

- Once they reach the halfway point, their team can walk alongside and use only their voices to guide them through the rest of the course.
- After each turn, swap roles so that each kid experiences both “alone” (no guidance for a few steps) and “not alone” (with a guide).
- After every kid who wants a turn to be blindfolded gets one, gather the group to discuss.

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- Keep the obstacle course safe, spaced out, and easy to navigate (no running or jumping required).
- Allow kids to participate as the one who gives instructions if the obstacle course and blindfold make them anxious.

What You Say:

“Great teamwork, friends! How did it feel trying to walk the course on your own? *(Invite responses.)* That was pretty tough, right? I mean, you couldn’t see or hear anyone!

“How did it feel to have someone with you, guiding you through it? *(Invite responses.)*

“Today, we’ll hear a true story from the Bible about Daniel, who faced something WAY scarier than this—but he kept putting his confidence in God and discovered he was never alone. Let’s find out why Daniel could have so much confidence. C’mon!”

9:20 - 9:50 | 11:20 – 11:50 | LARGE GROUP

In Week 3, we discover that Judah was conquered and many Israelites taken to Babylon, including Daniel. But even though Daniel grew up in a foreign nation, he placed all his confidence in the one true God. Because of his wisdom from God, Daniel was given a position of authority by several kings. But as an old man, he

faced an incredibly difficult choice—to pray to an earthly king or to continue placing his confidence in God alone... which would mean a trip to the lion’s den.

9:50 – 10:10 | 11:50 – 12:10 | SMALL GROUP

TAKE A SNAPSHOT

[Live for God | Application Activity]

What You Need: Opaque cups; index cards; pencils

What You Do:

- Give every kid a cup, an index card, and a pencil.
- Ask: “When have you felt alone or nervous at school, home, or anywhere else?”
- Invite the kids to write (or draw) their answer on one side of their card.
- Ask: “What’s something you discovered about God through Daniel’s story?”
- *Kids might say, God is always with me, God is trustworthy, God is in control, etc.*
- Invite the kids to write (or draw) their answer on the other side of their card.
- Instruct them to fold the card and drop it in their cup.
- Gather in a circle. Let kids share what they wrote (if they’d like).
- Hold up a cup.
 - Say: “We can’t see what’s inside the cup. In the same way, we can’t always see God, but He is always with us, just like He was with Daniel. Daniel trusted God, even when he couldn’t see Him, and God heard his prayers.”
 - Say: “The same God who shut the mouths of lions for Daniel is the God who listens to you, walks with you, and goes with you everywhere you go.”
- Ask: What is some evidence that shows that God wants to be close to you and with you all of the time?

- Say: “God wants to be your friend so much that Jesus came and gave His life to pay for your sins so that nothing could separate you from Him. Then, when you choose to follow Jesus, the Holy Spirit, God’s very Spirit, comes to live inside of you. God is closer than close! God has done all of this to be close to you!”
- Ask: What can you do to remind yourself that God is always with you? (*It can help us remember that God is with us if we talk to Him all the time throughout our day, about everything.*)
- Ask: There are a lot of times when we don’t feel like God is with us. How can we remind ourselves that He is?
 - Say: “When it doesn’t feel like God is with us, sometimes it helps to remember the times when He was with us in the past, even when we didn’t feel Him. If we look back on our lives, we will see that He has been with us every minute!”

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[Talk About God | Bible Story Review]

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- When have you felt alone?
- When have you felt like you were standing alone for something you believed was right? What did you do?
 - How can you remember that God is with you in moments like that?
- Why do you think God allowed Daniel to go through something so hard? What good came out of it?
- What can you do to help remind yourself throughout the day that God is always with you?

Inclusive Pro-Tips:

- Be sensitive to kids who may need extra time to process their thoughts and respond. Be patient and create a safe space where everyone has a chance to share when they're ready.
- Frequently check for understanding during discussion by asking questions like, "Can someone share in their own words what we're talking about?"

PRAYER TIME

[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Gather the kids together.
- Ask: "How does praying out loud make you feel?"
 - *Some kids might say nervous, weird, or shy.*
 - Say, "Daniel wasn't afraid to talk to God even when everyone could see him. He prayed with his windows open! (Daniel 6:10) Daniel was confident in God and knew that praying to God was nothing to be ashamed of."
- Encourage the kids to close their eyes or look down to help focus.
- Prompt the kids to pray for themselves out loud. It's okay if they want to pray silently.
 - Explain that it might feel awkward to pray, but focus on God and trust that He is listening!
 - Prayer suggestion: "God, help me trust You today. Help me be confident. Help me know You are always with me."
- Then, prompt the kids to pray for someone else out loud.
 - It could be a friend, family member, teacher, or anyone who needs help or encouragement.
 - Prompt suggestion: "God, will You help [name] with [what they need]? Remind them that You love them and are always with them."
- Close in prayer together. Thank God that we don't have to hide our prayers, that He hears us, and that He is always with us!