

DANIEL

Bible Text: Daniel 1, 3, 6

Lesson Focus: Evil does not have the last word in this world; God does.

Big Question: How can I remain faithful when there is so much pressure to live a different kind of life?

Key Words: APOCALYPSE, VISION, PERSECUTION

BIBLE CONNECTION

-] The book of Daniel is apocalyptic literature.
-] Daniel was written in a period of persecution (Daniel 1:1-7).
-] Apocalyptic writing gave people hope and captured their imagination. It still does—the arts and literature continue to use elements of the Bible’s apocalyptic passages.
-] Daniel is a rare book because it was written in two languages, Aramaic and Hebrew.
-] The first six chapters show Daniel and his friends trying to remain faithful to their religious tradition (Daniel 1:8-17).
-] God consistently supported Daniel and his friends (Daniel 3:28; 6:19-22).
-] The rest of the chapters contain visions about the cosmic struggle between good and evil.
-] Like Daniel, we need God to guide and strengthen our daily efforts to be faithful (Daniel 12:9).
-] Like Daniel, we trust that God’s goodness will overcome the power of evil.

CARTOON CONNECTION

-] Do you think we live in a Christian nation? Explain.
-] What kinds of pressures make it difficult for you to fully live a faithful life?
-] What kinds of things could help support your Christian walk?



STUDENT BOOK CONNECTION

Here We Stand Student Book page 207: How to Defend Your Faith against Attack

-] Have you ever been attacked because of your faith? Explain.
-] Read Daniel 3:13-18. Have you ever been in a situation where God gave you the strength to speak up for your faith? Explain. What about a time when you wish you would have but didn’t?
-] Which of the points in this article are the hardest for you? Which are the easiest?

LIFE CONNECTION

Your challenge this week is to identify someone who you think does a good job of living the Christian life. Make some time to talk to them about how they manage to live a life of faith. What strategies do they have? How do they overcome obstacles?

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Word Scramble

Unscramble these words from the book of Daniel. Use the Bible references to help you.

1. YOABBNL
2. DRASHCHA
3. EACHHMS
4. BDEOAENG
5. BLEHZAETSAZR
6. OICRHA
7. ZELRABZHSA
8. DUIARS
9. CUSRY
10. ZANEASHP

1. King Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom (Daniel 1:1).
2. Hananiah's new name (Daniel 1:7).
3. Mashaël's new name (Daniel 1:7).
4. Azariah's new name (Daniel 1:7).
5. Daniel's new name (Daniel 1:7).
6. King Nebuchadnezzar's chief executioner (Daniel 2:14-16).
7. The Chaldean king who honored Daniel (Daniel 5:30).
8. The Mede who became king (Daniel 6:1).
9. The Persian king (Daniel 10:1).
10. King Nebuchadnezzar's palace master (Daniel 1:3).

Answers: 1. Babylon 2. Shadrach 3. Meshach 4. Abednego 5. Belteshazzar 6. Arioch 7. Belshazzar 8. Darius 9. Cyrus 10. Ashpenaz