LESSON 17

DANIEL PRAYS TO GOD



Aim: **To show the children that Daniel knew his relationship with God was more important than anything else.**

Scripture Reading: **Daniel 6:1-16**

Memory Verse: **Exodus 20:12 (the Ten Commandments) "Honour your father and your mother ..."**

PRESENTING THE LESSON

STARTING POINT

Take a torch with you to class and show the children how it works. When there is a connection between the bulb and the battery there is a supply of electrical current which makes the bulb light up. The bulb must be connected to the source of power or there won't be any light.

MAIN POINTS OF THE LESSON

1. A new king, Darius, was ruling in Babylon. Daniel was an excellent and efficient administrator in his service, too. God had given Daniel this gift and he knew he needed to keep in close contact with God. The time he spent with God in prayer three times a day was very important to him. He needed to stay connected to his source of power! But there were people who were jealous of Daniel's position. Even though he was a slave he had the responsibilities and authority of a prime minister (Dan 6:1-5).
2. Describe how those jealous people went to see King Darius and got him to issue an order forbidding anyone to pray to any god or man other than himself for 30 days. This request was a plot not only to work against Daniel, but also to flatter King Darius (6:6-9).
3. Daniel heard of the king's new law and the terrible punishment for anyone who would disobey. Still, he prayed just as usual (6:10).
4. Daniel's enemies saw him praying and reported it to the king. **Show Picture 17.** They reminded Darius of his new law, which could not be changed (6:11-13).
5. The king was very upset and tried to think how he could stop Daniel being thrown into the lions' den. He could not find a way out (6:14-16).

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Our Response to the Story

Daniel knew he needed to keep in touch with God. It was the most important thing in his life. It was more important than the threat of terrible punishment.

If we go without food for a day we feel hungry and uncomfortable. If we should go without food for more than a week our bodies would begin to weaken and we would become ill. Prayer is like spiritual food. We cannot go without it.

As Christians who want to serve and please God, we must keep in touch with him at all times – as a soldier does with his commander and a light bulb with its power source.

Instil the Memory Verse



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