

CatholicMom.com Gospel Activity – Celebrating Our Catholic Faith

Religious Education Lesson Plan Helpers by Laura Grace

Please note: Some of our lesson plans contain links to Christian, non-Catholic resources. When preparing your lessons, we urge you to inform yourself on the teachings of the Catholic Church with respect to the Sunday gospel and readings. If you find links in any of the lesson plans which may be counter to the teachings of the Church, please notify lisa@catholicmom.com. These lesson plan helpers are designed to assist you in pulling together creative ideas and activities to supplement your lesson plan, but are not designed to be catechetical in nature. Thank you for your continued prayerful support.

Daniel and the Lions

Review:

Questions from last week's lesson

Vocabulary: (Write the bold words on the board and discuss words with class).

Jerusalem- the capital of Israel and holy city of the Jews (show students this on a map or have one of the students find it on a map).

Babylonians- somebody from Babylon (show students this on a map or have one of the students find it on a map).

Kingdom- a country rules by a king or queen

Ruler- a person who that controls others

Jealous- envious of someone else, his or her things, talents, etc.

Pray- to talk to God and asking Him to do something or thanking Him

Law- rules

Pit- a large deep hole in the ground

Respect- treat this person with honor

Lion's Den- where lions live

Protected- to keep safe

Plan:

1. Read story: "Daniel and Lion's Den" from your own story book. While reading the story do cut outs (Snip-And-Tell Bible Stories by Karyn Henley, page 52 - 54) as the story unfolds. Then ask questions from below.
 1. Daniel became one of the three rulers of the whole kingdom. How did the other two rulers feel about Daniel and what did they want to do with him? They were jealous of Daniel and plotted to get rid of him.
 2. Who would Daniel only pray to? God.
 3. Was that against the law? Yes.
 4. What happened to Daniel for breaking the law? The King ordered Daniel to be put into the lion pit.
 5. Why didn't the lions eat Daniel? God kept the lions' mouth shut.
 6. What happened to the other two rulers? The King ordered the two rulers to be put into the pit with the lions.
 7. The King made a new law. What was it? He ordered that everyone in his kingdom should respect Daniel's God, the God who had saved Daniel from the lions.

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2. Introduce movie: Who was thrown into the lion pit for praying to God?

Movie- Veggie Tales: Where's God When I'm S-Scared? Daniel and the Lion's Den (14 min.) and ask questions:

1. Who told the King what his dream meant? Daniel
2. The Wise Men got jealous of Daniel and what did they want to do? Get rid of him
3. How did they do this? They had a law passed that people could only pray to the King.
4. Who would Daniel pray to? Only to God
5. What happened to Daniel? They threw him in the Lion's den.
6. Did the lions eat Daniel? No
7. Why didn't the lion's eat Daniel? God protected him.

3. Introduce game- Who would only pray to God and it was against the law? Is this a brave thing to do? What could happen to Daniel?

The Really Big Book of Bible Games (several games below to pick from)

Balloon Challenge (page 158)

Faithfulness Toss (page 212)

Practice Practice (page 194)

4. Introduce craft: What did not eat Daniel?

Lion Mask

Need: Paper plate, crayons/paint, stapler, paper grocery bag

Directions: Cut the center out of a paper plate and color/paint paper plate tan. (Note: Be sure to have students use old crayons and peel the paper off the crayons and rub the side of the crayon on the paper plate instead of coloring it. This will be a lot faster and easier for the students). Cut 2 ears (triangles 3 inches on all three sides) out of the paper bag. Staple ears to mask where ears should go on the back of the plate. Cut several rectangles for mane (rectangles 1 inch by 6 inches long) out of a paper bag. Staple mane rectangles on edge of mask on the back of the paper plate all the way around mask. Cut a strip (2 inches by 20 inches) out of the paper bag to make a band for the back of the mask. Staple on end of the strip to one side of the mask on the back. Fit the strip to the child's head then staple the other end in place. Cut off excess band.

Or

Flat Cat- <http://www.daniellesplace.com/html/paperplate.html>

Scroll down to this craft made out of paper plates.

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Or

Easy Lion Craft- <http://www.dltk-kids.com/animals/melion.html>
Lion made out of a paper plate with templates provided.

5. Puzzles & Mazes, Worksheets, etc.

More 365 Activities for Kids (do any of the Daniel puzzles, mazes, dot-to-dot, spot the difference, etc. from July 8 – 14).

Daniel and the Lion's Den puzzles- <http://www.thewordpuzzles.com/childrens.html>

6. Introduce snack: What didn't eat Daniel? Lions

Lion cupcake- <http://jas.familyfun.go.com/recipefinder/display?id=50077>
Have the students decorate their cupcake and eat it.

Lion Bites- http://www.christiancrafters.com/treat_lion.html

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