

# God Rules: Be Strong, Daniel

## Lesson Five: God Rescues Daniel in the Lion's Den

### *Daniel Chapter 6 Character Overview*

In Daniel, chapter 6, King Darius is now on the throne instead of Belshazzar. He organized his kingdom with various ruling leaders, choosing Daniel as one of three presidents. Daniel became distinguished above all the other leaders because an excellent spirit was in him. (6:3)

God is always faithful to give Daniel wisdom and understanding and to deliver him. Daniel's character is consistent throughout the book with integrity, humility, exercising wisdom, and honoring God which results in his being advanced in positions of authority.

#### **The Word Up for this lesson: "God is faithful!"**

With each situation, whether it be the threat of being killed, put in a fiery furnace, the attack of enemy armies or the lion's den, Daniel and his friends still had to trust God's faithfulness. They had to exercise courage.

The child relying on God can say,

**"I can be courageous because I can count on God to keep His promises."**

The Christlike character of courage says,

**"I honor God when I overcome fear in order to do what is right."**

This typically results in helping others to know and to do what is right as well.\*

*\*Character Solutions: Christlikeness Bible Guide, pg. 9*

God's child can trust God to help them overcome their fear and give them the courage to be strong and faithful to Him. Our trust in God in hard situations will help others, who are yet-to-believe on God, to trust Him for saving and keeping them, too.

**Let's A S K** God for His strength to give us the **courage** to stand strong for Him even when others are making fun of us for following Him. Our **courage** to stand strong for God will also help others to stand strong for Him, too.

#### **What's in a Name?**

Remember the first lesson when Daniel and his three friends were captured, taken to Babylon and given new names? Their Hebrew names reminded them of who God is. Changing their "outside" name did not change the "inside." They held onto the "secret message in their real name" about who God is throughout their captivity. Remembering who God is and that He is faithful to His character fueled their confidence, conviction, commitment and, therefore, their courage. Daniel 9:19 tells us that God's people are called by His name.

Jeremiah 15:16 says, "Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for **I am called by your name**, O Lord, God of hosts."

What does your name mean? If you were to choose a name that reflected God's character actively working in your life, what would it be? Can you picture holding onto this name as a secret message to your heart when you are in the middle of storms and trials?

We can have confidence because Jesus said in John 16:33, "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world." **Be strong and courageous. The Lord is on your side!**

**Activity Idea for Pre-club**  
**God Rules: Be Strong - Daniel**  
**Lesson Five: God Rescues Daniel in the Lion's Den**  
**Ten Seconds in the Lion's Den**

Ask the clubbers: "Who feels very brave?" Next, of those raising their hands, ask who has stored up God's Word in their heart so well, that it is guarding their ways? Choose one who is raising their hand and ask them to tell which verse it is and if they can quote it. Then ask if they would like to be a part of a simulation for 10 seconds in the lion's den. The teacher can demonstrate first. The teacher sits in a chair in front of the clubbers and another team member puts on a blindfold because the lion's den is dark. The teacher is asked, What is your verse you have stored up in your heart? The teacher answers and quotes it. Then, the teacher is told that she/he will experience a simulation of being like Daniel in the lion's den and she/he needs to say the verse out loud to him/herself while the simulation continues for 10 seconds. (Choose someone to slowly count to ten.)

The other clubbers are sitting in a group and are directed one at a time to roar like a lion when pointed to do so. Then point to two or three at the same time, then one. The team member directing the children takes a folder and waves it in front of the blindfolded person without touching them to simulate the breath of the lions. At 10 seconds, everything stops. The blindfolded person is asked what it was like. Did remembering the Word stored up in their heart help? Then, give the clubbers turns sitting in the lion's den until time runs out.

Practicing what to do in a hard situation helps when the situation really comes, like disaster drills. They can also be reminded that those who have trusted Christ as Savior can remember that He calls them by name and they are called by His name, "Christian." This helps in hard times because: **Word up: God is Faithful!**

**Rhyming Review Daniel Lesson 5**

1. In Daniel, chapter 6, Daniel excelled while the ungodly leaders were expelled.
2. Darius did not stop to think before he signed the decree as the king. He didn't realize what harm to Daniel it would bring.
3. In spite of the new law, what did Daniel continue to do each day? He went to his room three times to pray.
4. For Daniel, there was a surprise in the lion's den. Instead of causing him harm, they acted like his friend. The lions didn't hurt him as the others supposed. An angel kept their mouths closed.
5. We can have courage because God is faithful. For that we are very grateful!
6. When King Darius peered into the lion's cave, he wanted to know if Daniel's God could save!