



BIG IDEA

When our faith is active, we can see God at work.

DANIEL | THE FAITHFUL | WEEK 3 OF 4

Plus One

GOD STORY

Sharach, Meshach, and
Abednego
Daniel 3

KEY VERSE

Faith is being sure of what
we hope for. It is being sure
of what we do not
see.
Hebrews 11:1 (NIRV)

LEADER TIP(S)

- When you're not sure
what to focus on,
highlight the Big Idea!

My Story

1 | CONVERSATION STARTER (7 minutes)

Who's your plus one?

2 | INTRO ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Would You Rather...?

God Story | Life Story

3 | WEEKLY VIDEO (12 minutes)

Watch the video, which includes host, God Story, and Life Story segments. Recap and discuss the teaching.

My Story

4 | APPLICATION ACTIVITY (12 minutes*)

Get students "moving" into their Bibles...

5 | WRAP-UP ACTIVITY (10 minutes)

Try this altogether-separate prayer activity.

Our Story

6 | DISMISSAL (2 minutes)

*Extend as needed and adjust timing for other activities.



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My Story

1 | Conversation Starter

SUPPLIES

- None

LEADER TIP

- This is meant to be a casual conversation as the kids/students arrive. Move on quickly to the Intro Activity so you have enough time for it before the teaching video.

INSTRUCTIONS

- a. Welcome the students as they arrive and gather everyone in a group.
- b. Ask: If you were trapped on a desert island and could only bring one person with you, who would it be? Why?
- c. Depending on the size of your group, have the students share their responses with the people sitting closest to them or with everyone.
- d. Explain that in today's God Story, three friends end up in an unfortunate place and their "plus one" is the perfect addition.

2 | Intro Activity

SUPPLIES

- None

INSTRUCTIONS

- a. Play a game of Would You Rather...?
- b. Read each set of options and then prompt the students to vote by standing up to choose the first one or staying seated to choose the second option.
- c. Say, "Would you rather...":
 - "...get a free motorcycle or a free hot air balloon?"
 - "...live in the Sahara or Antarctica?"
 - "...have no hair at all or be covered head to toe in it?"
 - "...be able to watch only the few movies with a Rotten Tomatoes score of 95-100% fresh or only the greater number of movies with lower scores?"
 - "...be transported permanently 500 years into the future or 500 years into the past?"
 - "...disappoint your parents or your friends?"
 - (Important final question) "...be known for what you believe in or be known for blending in the crowd?"
- d. Introduce this week's Big Idea: **When our faith is active, we can see God at work.**

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God Story | Life Story

3 | Weekly Video

SUPPLIES

- Video file

INSTRUCTIONS

- Play the video. It includes:
 - Host segment
 - God Story (Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego | Daniel 3)
 - Life Story (When Audrie moved to France as part of a school exchange program, she struggled with being away from home. However, she learned to depend on God to see her through the tough times.)
- Recap the video teaching. Discuss:
 - What's this series' Key Verse? (Hebrews 11:1)
 - What was the Life Story about in today's video?
 - What was the God Story about?

My Story

4 | Application Activity

SUPPLIES

- Bibles

LEADER TIP

- Need a little help pronouncing Nebuchadnezzar's name? It's "neh-byou-cud-NEZ-er."

INSTRUCTIONS

- Invite four volunteers to stand up. Divide them into pairs.
- Tell one person from each pair they can only change positions when their partner moves them. The "mover" will try to answer the following questions by putting their partner into that action/position:
 - King Nebuchadnezzar asked everyone to worship the statue when certain music was played by one of these instruments. Put your partner into the pose of playing one of them. (e.g., horn, flute, harp)
 - The king told them to do this. (bow)
 - Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego wouldn't bow down, so they stayed in this position. (stand up)
 - When we worship today, we don't often bow. What does it look like for us to worship during musical worship? (e.g., hands raised or mid-clap)
- Thank the volunteers and have them sit down.
- Make sure everyone has a Bible.
- Guide the students to find Daniel 3. Discuss: What do you think it means to worship something? We don't have that many statues around, so what do you think people today worship?
- Read Daniel 3:13, 19-20. Discuss: What happened when Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego didn't follow the world?
- Read Daniel 3:17-18. Discuss: How did the three men respond to the danger they faced? When or how might following God be difficult for us? How can we follow Jesus fully, with the kind of faith that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego had?

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My Story

5 | Wrap-Up Activity

SUPPLIES

- Pens
- Paper

INSTRUCTIONS

- If possible, have everyone spread out around your group's space.
- Offer the students pens and paper to write or draw their prayers.
- Note that having faith like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego can be hard! We face all kinds of tough situations and "would you rather" moments every day. Fortunately, we don't face these situations alone! Jesus promises that his followers (even the young ones) will have the Holy Spirit—that's God living in our hearts! By getting in tune with what the Holy Spirit wants, we can find the courage to make hard decisions and start to see God in new ways!
- Explain that as a faith-building exercise and to connect with the Holy Spirit, the group is going to practise praying together. After you say each phrase below, the students will have a minute to practice talking or writing to God about it:
 - God, you have given me many good gifts.
 - God, there are some things I'm worried about.
 - God, there are times when it's hard to follow you.
 - God, thank you that because of Jesus, I am forgiven and free.
 - God, help me see you in times when it's difficult.
- To wrap up the prayer time, say, "In Jesus' name we pray, amen!"

Our Story

6 | Dismissal

SUPPLIES

- Take-home cards
- Key Verses cards

INSTRUCTIONS

- Take a few moments to pray for the students if you have not already done so.
- Remind everyone about any upcoming events or relevant announcements.
- Make sure the students have all their take-home materials.



Jr. High
Weekend

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