

Story Time - Read the story to the children
Lesson 155: DANIEL AND HIS FRIENDS OBEY GOD
DANIEL 1:1-17

In the third year of the rule of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, came to Jerusalem, shutting it in with his forces. And the Lord gave into his hands Jehoiakim, the king of Judah, with some of the vessels of the house of God; and he took them away into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; and he put the vessels into the store-house of his god. And the king gave orders to Ashpenaz, the captain of his servants, to take in some of the children of Israel, certain ones from the king's family, and those who were important; Young men who were perfect, strong and healthy, good-looking, and trained in all wisdom, having a good education and much knowledge, and able to take positions in the king's house; and to have them trained in the writing and language of the Chaldeans. And a regular amount of food and wine every day from the king's table was ordered for them by the king; and they were to be cared for for three years so that at the end of that time they might take their places before the king. And among these there were, of the children of Judah, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. And the captain of the servants gave them names; to Daniel he gave the name of Belteshazzar, to Hananiah the name of Shadrach, to Mishael the name of Meshach, and to Azariah the name of Abed-nego. And Daniel had come to the decision that he would not make himself unclean with the king's food or wine; so he made a request to the captain of the servants that he wouldn't have to eat or drink those things that would make him unclean. And God put into the heart of the captain of the servants some kind feelings and pity for Daniel. And the captain of the servants said to Daniel, I fear my lord the king, who has given orders about your food and your drink; what if he sees you looking less happy than the other young men of your generation? Then you would have put my head in danger from the king. Then Daniel said to the keeper that the captain of the servants had ordered to take care of Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah: Put your servants to the test for ten days; let them give us grain for our food and water for our drink. Then take a look at our faces and the faces of the young men who have food from the king's table; and, having seen them,

do to your servants as it seems right to you. So he listened to them in this thing and put them to the test for ten days. And at the end of ten days their faces seemed better and they were fatter in flesh than all the young men who had their food from the king's table. So the keeper regularly took away their meat and the wine which was to have been their drink, and gave them grain. Now as for these four young men, God gave them knowledge and made them experts in all book-learning and wisdom: and Daniel was wise in all kinds of visions and dreams.

155. DANIEL AND HIS FRIENDS OBEY GOD

(DANIEL 1:1-17)



"Then said Daniel to Melzar, whom the prince of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, prove the servants, I beseech thee, ten days; and let them give us vegetables to eat, and water to drink."

DANIEL 1:11-12

155. DANIEL AND HIS FRIENDS OBEY GOD

DANIEL 1:1-17

MEMORY VERSE:

"As for these four young men, God gave them knowledge and skill." DANIEL 1:17

TRUE OR FALSE

1. The king told Ashpenaz, the captain of his servants, to bring some of the children of Israel. TRUE or FALSE
2. Nebuchadnezzar wanted lame young men, and sick people. TRUE or FALSE
3. Some of the people who were captured were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah. TRUE or FALSE
4. The captain of the king's servants gave Daniel and his friends new names. TRUE or FALSE
5. Daniel decided that he was going to make himself unclean with the king's food and wine. TRUE or FALSE

ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

1. Why did the king want Daniel and his friends? Were they going to serve in his palace one day?
2. What did king Nebuchadnezzar order the captain of his servants to feed Daniel and his friends?
3. Did Daniel want to eat the king's meat and drink his wine? Why not?
4. Why was the servant in charge of taking care of Daniel afraid if Daniel and his friend didn't eat the food the king wanted them to eat?
5. Were Daniel and his friends okay from eating only grain and vegetables? Were they even better than the other young men who were eating the king's food?

Lesson 155 Discussion Time

STAND UP FOR WHAT IS RIGHT

Have you ever been in a situation where you were asked to do or say something that you know God wouldn't like? Or do you know some situations that could happen?

List some situations that the children have been in or think of (i.e. bullies have encouraged them to pick on another child, friends may have encouraged them to take something that wasn't theirs, etc.)

Get several examples, and discuss what the RIGHT thing is to do in these situations.

How you behave shows what you believe. How will YOU stand up under pressure to certain things?

Just like Daniel did, let's learn to pray and put our situation into God's hands. Let's decide in our hearts to stand strong for God in the middle of a sinful world!

PRAYER

Lead the children in a prayer of commitment to stand strong and faithful in a sinful world. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the Gospel, give them opportunity.

155 – What's in a name? (ages 7+)

Take each name and see how many words you can make out of that name (for example, Nebuchadnezzar can make words like 'bed', 'bud', 'can', 'end', 'and', 'bend', etc):

Belteshazzar

Shadrach

Meshach

Abednego

DANIEL OBEYS GOD
Daniel 4 & 5



Many years later, a country called Babylon took part of the Israelites' land. They took the Israelites as prisoners.