

D6 EveryDay™ Parent Page

Date | **May 7, 2023** Family Theme | **Standing Against Opposition**
Study Text | **Daniel 6:1-28**

Objective: Family members walk with and serve God even when it is not popular in the culture.

How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible: The events in the book of Daniel took place during the time when God's people had been taken into captivity by the Babylonians and later the Medo-Persians from 605 BC to 536 BC. The events in this lesson occurred during the later period of time, making Daniel at least 80 years old.

Bible Basics: Go over the following question and answer this week with family members. **What is prayer?**
Answer: Prayer is speaking to God.

Read the Word: Daniel 6:1-28

Disciple Your Kids:

Discuss with family members how we may face opposition, ridicule, and persecution when we believe and obey God. We can glorify God by remaining faithful to Him.



Key Truth: Believers May Face Opposition Because of Their Faith and Obedience to God (Daniel 6:1-15)

- Persia's new ruler Darius so admired Daniel's performance that he promoted Daniel to oversee the whole realm. The other administrators were displeased that Daniel was given a position above theirs. Finding nothing in his work records or character to criticize, they realized they had to try to destroy him through his religion. Knowing he prayed three times daily, they presented a proposal to Darius. No one should pray to any other gods for the next 30 days. Darius agreed (verses 1-9).
- Daniel continued with the routine of prayer he had followed for years. The conspirators found Daniel breaking the decree, as they had hoped. They wasted no time telling the king. Daniel had proven himself to be a valuable official, so Darius tried to find a way to deliver Daniel from the sentence. In the end, the king had to give the order, and Daniel was thrown into the den of lions (verses 10-15).



Key Truth: Believers Bring Glory to God When They Remain Faithful to Him (Daniel 6:16-28)

- The king came back to the lion's den at daybreak after hardly sleeping at all. His approach, his anguish, and his cry indicate at least a glimmer of hope that Daniel's God would have come through. He rejoiced when Daniel gave him the good news of God's protection and came out without a scratch on him (verses 16-23).
- Darius then gave the order for Daniel's accusers to be thrown into the lion's den along with their families. Darius rejoiced at what God had done and acknowledged what generations of Babylonians had denied: God is the living God. He rules a kingdom that does not end. He works mighty deeds in our world of flesh and blood, as seen with Daniel (verses 24-28). Do the results of this event mean that God will always deliver His people without any harm coming to them? No, it does not. God's people must trust Him to do what He wills, whether that means complete deliverance from harm, partial deliverance from harm, or even deliverance through death.

Discussion Starters

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with family members this week. Questions in **bold** will be good to use with elementary age children.

- **What kinds of opposition do believers sometimes face from unbelievers?**
- Why should believers expect opposition when they remain faithful to God?
- Why is God worthy of our trust and obedience in times of opposition?
- **In what ways can believers bring glory to God by being faithful to Him?**
- **In what area could you remain faithful to God this week even when others do not?**
- **How did Daniel's actions influence the King's perception of not only Daniel, but also God?**

Everyday Extras

As a family, pray like Daniel did this week. Practice going to a window at morning, noon, and night to pray together. Are there some good results of this habit or discipline?

Turn the tables on the lions! Spread peanut butter on a round cracker, attach carrot curls for the lion's mane, an inverted pretzel for his muzzle, and mini chocolate chips for his eyes. Though Daniel was thrown in with the real, hungry lions, God sealed their mouths and kept them from hurting Daniel. After you pray to thank God for your food, gobble up the lions.

Preschool Highlights for &

Today your child learned Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were thrown into a fiery furnace when they would not bow to the king's statue. The king saw that God sent an angel to the men and He protected them from being hurt. The king had the men come out, and he knew the God they served was real and true. **I Can Live for God** by always standing up for Him.