



THIS PROGRAM

There are many stories in the bible of men and women putting their faith into action and achieving great things for God. In this program, we are learning about some of these 'heroes of the faith' listed in Hebrews 11. Our heart is that your pre-schoolers will be encouraged that they, too, can be strong and courageous, believing in God. As we read each story and what we can learn from them, we are teaching the kids that faith is believing in God, He can help us to be strong and have courage!

Our repeated phrase is: Faith is believing in God, He can help us to be strong and have courage!

This weeks key point: God always keeps his promise.

Our Memory Verse is: "So be strong and courageous, all you who put your hope in the LORD!" - Psalm 31:24 (NLT)

WEEK 9: DANIEL- HAVE NO FEAR GOD IS HERE

Today we are learning about Daniel who was a great prophet of God! Daniel was a man who followed God no matter what. Even amongst a people who worshipped false gods. When a law was passed that you could not pray to anyone but the king, Daniel refused and continued to pray to God. He was thrown into the lions den as a result! But God was with Daniel and shut the mouths of the lions. This week we want our preschoolers to declare "Have no fear, God is here!"

RESOURCES

- The Jesus Storybook Bible by Sally Lloyd-Jones for connect groups
- Paper plates, paddle-pop sticks, red, orange and brown crepe paper, scissors and glue for the craft

GAME: WHATS THE TIME MR WOLF

Choose someone to be the 'wolf.' The wolf stands on one end of the playing space, facing away from the kids lined up on the other end of the space. Together the kids yell "What's the time Mr Wolf?" and the wolf responds with a time i.e. '2:00!' The kids then take the number of steps matching the time (i.e. 2 steps). The aim is to try and tap the wolf before the wolf says 'dinner time!' If the wolf shouts 'dinner time!' they must run back to the starting line trying not to get tagged. The person who is tagged, is the next wolf!

VIDEO FOLLOW-UP

Today we are learning about how when we are afraid, we can remember that God is with us and will take care of us. So we don't need to be scared, we can just talk to God. Like Daniel! Daniel talked to God even when it was scary and God kept Daniel safe from the lions. And our friend Donna learnt to 'have no fear, because God is here!' The next time you're scared, like when Donna was afraid of being in the dark, remember that God is with you and will take care of you. Just talk to him! Whisper after me 'Have no fear, God is here!' Now say it in your normal voices, now shout it! 'Have no fear, God is here.'

- What was Donna afraid of in our video?
- What happened to Daniel when he was thrown into the lion's den for praying?
- If God kept Daniel safe because He was with Daniel, will God keep Donna safe? What about you? Will God keep you safe?

ILLUSTRATION IDEA

Ask the kids have they ever seen their shadow before? Can they make a shadow right now? When you walk around your shadow follows you around too! Why does your shadow follow you around? It's stuck to you! When you love God, he is with you all the time too and is always ready to listen to you talking to Him and to help you when you are scared. God is very powerful! He is bigger than braver than all the scary things in the whole wide world. Next time you are afraid remember that God is always with you. You don't have to be afraid!

CONNECT GROUP & STORY TIME

Read 'Daniel and the Scary Sleepover' in The Jesus Storybook Bible by Sally Lloyd-Jones pp. 152-159

1. What did Daniel do every day, three times a day?
2. The other helpers tried to get Daniel in trouble by making up a rule about praying. What was it?
3. Did Daniel obey the rule not to pray?
4. What happened to Daniel?
5. Did God look after Daniel? Will God look after you?

Pray together and thank Jesus that we can always talk to Him. Thank Him that he is with us to take care of us. Ask God to help the kids to be brave and remember that God is with them.

CRAFT: LION MASK

1. Prepare this craft by taking paper plates and cutting the centre out of each one so the kids can hold it up and put their face through it. Then take orange, yellow and brown crepe paper and cut them into long strips. Give each child a paper plate mask and distribute the strips of yellow, orange and brown crepe paper, paddle pop sticks and some glue.
2. Explain to the kids that today they will be making a lion mask to remind them that God is bigger than scary things like lions, like when he kept Daniel safe from the lions in den.
3. Have the kids stick the strips of paper around their paper plate to make a lions mane. Use a paddle-pop stick to create a handle for their mask so they can hold it up. Label the crafts.