

Application Activities

Select from the following choices. Each choice is designed for 20 minutes of small group time.

Pull It Together

Flour, alum, salt, water, mixing bowl, spoon, measuring spoons, measuring cups

Teacher Tip

Prepare extra clay before the session.

Recipe:

4 cups flour
1 teaspoon alum
1½ cup salt
1½ cup water
Water (add as needed)

Pull It Together

Large cardboard box, shoe, dollar bill, cell phone, phone book, church bulletin, first aid kit, etc.

- Place the items in the box.

Teacher Tip

Avoid items such as knives, sticks, bats, or guns. These items may cause the children to put more trust in the items themselves than in God.

Worship Through Arts and Crafts

- Ask: "How would you feel if you were about to be thrown into a den of lions? Do you think you would trust God for protection?"
- Continue: "Daniel knew there would be consequences of not following the king's order. Daniel trusted God."
- Ask: "Do you think Daniel remembered the events of God shutting the lions' mouths everytime he saw lions? When we see lions, we can also remember God's protection. Let's create lion sculptures to remind us of God's protection."
- Guide the children to mix together the salt, flour, and alum in a bowl.
- Select a volunteer to gradually add water while continually stirring the mixture.
- Direct the children to knead the dough, adding water until the dough forms a bread consistency.
- Separate the dough among the children.
- Suggest children create lion sculptures as reminders of God's protection.
- Say: "Carry your lions home and allow them to dry. When they completely dry, you can paint and decorate them."
- Read aloud Psalm 121:8.
- Guide the children to understand that God will protect them, but this does not mean bad things will never happen to them.
- Pray, praising God for His never-changing power to protect.

Worship Through Dramatic Play

- Ask: "How would you feel if you were about to be thrown into a den of lions? Do you think you would trust God for protection?"
- Continue: "Daniel knew that there would be consequences of not following the king's order. Daniel trusted God."
- Say "Let's use some common, everyday items to act out ways we can trust God for His protection."
- Invite the children to select partners.
- Say: "Each team will select an item from the box. You will have 3 minutes to develop a skit about God's protection using the item you select."
- Permit the children to select items from the box.
- Provide assistance as the children develop their skits.
- Allow the children to share their skits.
- Discuss how people can use these items to remember to trust God for protection.
- Read aloud Psalm 121:8.
- Guide the children to understand that God will protect them, but this does not mean bad things will never happen to them.
- Pray, praising God for His never-changing power to protect.

Pull It Together

Create a large playing space.

Worship Through Games

- Ask: "How would you feel if you were about to be thrown into a den of lions? Do you think you would trust God for protection?"
- Continue: "Daniel knew there would be consequences of not following the king's order. Daniel trusted God."
- Guide the children to form a large circle and sit on their knees.
- Explain: "I will select one person to walk around the outside of the circle. She will say 'Daniel, Daniel, what will you do? Will you trust God to protect you?' After finishing the statement, she will tap a person on the head. The person (lion) will then chase her around the circle. If she gets tagged, she will sit in the lions' den (center of the circle) for the next round. The 'lion' will then repeat the phrase and select new 'lion' to tag."
- Play the game.
- Ask: "How did it make you feel when you were tagged? How did you feel when you escaped the 'lion'? How do you think Daniel felt when he was thrown into the lion's den?"
- Read aloud Psalm 121:8.
- Guide the children to understand that God will protect them, but this does not mean bad things will never happen to them.
- Pray, praising God for His never-changing power to protect.

Pull It Together

Pencils

- Print "Evidence of God's Protection" (CD).
Copy 1 per child.

Worship Through Exploration and Discovery

- State: "Daniel knew there would be consequences of not following the king's order to worship the statue. However, Daniel trusted God."
- Continue: "There are many other people we can read about in the Bible whom God protected. Let's discover a few of these people."
- Distribute "Evidence of God's Protection" and pencils.
- Guide the children to complete the chart.
- Discuss the information the children gathered.
- Ask: "Does God still protect people? How do we know that God will protect us?"
- Read aloud Psalm 121:8.
- Guide the children to understand that God will protect them, but this does not mean bad things will never happen to them.
- Pray, praising God for His never-changing power to protect.