



Sing "Be Still & Know" sheet music to sing along is available at firstrefchurch.ca/Ministries/Children

PRAY *Have a parent lead this prayer*

"Heavenly Father, we thank you for the Bible and the stories that can teach us so much about who you are and how you want us to live. Help us to understand and apply it to our lives. In Jesus name, Amen.

Say: Today we are going to learn more about King Nebuchadnezzar (Neb-u-kad-nezz-ar) and the way that God spoke to him in a dream to teach him something!

Ask: Have you ever had a dream that you remembered in the morning? What was it about?

Give everyone a chance to share before continuing

Say: Sometimes dreams are silly or scary. Often dreams don't really mean much of anything. In today's Bible story, we'll hear about a dream that did mean something! In fact, King Nebuchadnezzar's dream was about something that would happen to him in the future!

Say: Last week we answers our Big Picture Question: Why do we pray? Do you remember the answer?

Say: We pray because we trust God, and we know He hears us.

Say: We can pray to God anytime, anywhere. We don't have to use special words when we talk to God. We don't have to use words at all! God knows our words before we say them. He even knows our thoughts before we think them. Let's find out what part prayer has to play in our Bible story today.

READ *from your own Bibles. Let children who can read, take turns reading parts of **Daniel 4**. Kids who don't know how to read yet can follow along in a children's Bible*

Say: Wow! God really wanted King Nebuchadnezzar to get the message! He spoke to him in a dream and then had Daniel tell the King what that dream meant and then it came true!

Ask: Have you ever worked really hard to make something? Is it important for you to get credit for what you make? How would you feel if someone else said that THEY made it and you didn't?
Give some time for conversation

Say: The King really wanted to be important and take the credit for the kingdom of Babylon. He didn't recognize that God was the reason they were doing so well. This did not make God very happy! God humbled the King to show him that God is in control!

Say: But after 7 years, God had mercy on the King and allowed him to rule again.



MEMORIZE: *This week as a family place this verse in your heart:*

“Rejoice Always. Pray continually. Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Say: The Bible shows us that we are sinful and need God to save us. We are completely on God’s grace. We need God’s grace so much that it is silly to think that we can do anything without God’s help. Pride steals God’s glory. Pride tries to say that we made ourselves good when it was really God.

Say: Jesus is the King of kings who humbled himself by coming to earth and dying on the cross. Jesus saves sinners so we can live for God’s glory. We cannot do that by ourselves.

Practice Your Faith

Just like King Nebuchadnezzar, we can try to take credit for what God has done in our life. That is called “pride.” What are some ways that you might have pride?

Help kids come up with examples of pride in their own life. We show pride when we fail to love others well and when we try to get our way instead of trusting God. We even show pride when we choose not to pray

PRAY: *Get an older child to read this prayer for the family*

God, we thank You for Your Word. It is so special that we get to know You by reading the Bible. Thank you for the story of Nebuchadnezzar’s dream and how You show us that You are in control of everything. You are powerful and might. We give you all

The Gospel: God's Plan for Me

Ask kids if they have ever heard the word *gospel*. Clarify that the word *gospel* means "good news." It is the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation. Use the following guide to share the gospel with kids.



God rules. Explain to kids that the Bible tells us God created everything, and He is in charge of everything. Invite a volunteer to read Genesis 1:1 from the Bible. Read Revelation 4:11 or Colossians 1:16-17 aloud and explain what these verses mean.



We sinned. Tell kids that since the time of Adam and Eve, everyone has chosen to disobey God. (Romans 3:23) The Bible calls this sin. Because God is holy, God cannot be around sin. Sin separates us from God and deserves God's punishment of death. (Romans 6:23)



God provided. Choose a child to read John 3:16 aloud. Say that God sent His Son, Jesus, the perfect solution to our sin problem, to rescue us from the punishment we deserve. It's something we, as sinners, could never earn on our own. Jesus alone saves us. Read and explain Ephesians 2:8-9.



Jesus gives. Share with kids that Jesus lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, and rose again. Because Jesus gave up His life for us, we can be welcomed into God's family for eternity. This is the best gift ever! Read Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; or 1 Peter 3:18.



We respond. Tell kids that they can respond to Jesus. Read Romans 10:9-10,13. Review these aspects of our response: Believe in your heart that Jesus alone saves you through what He's already done on the cross. Repent, turning from self and sin to Jesus. Tell God and others that your faith is in Jesus.

