



*OPTIONAL: Sing "Be Still & Know" (lyrics are available at [firstrefchurch.ca/ministries/children](http://firstrefchurch.ca/ministries/children))*

**PRAY** *Have kids repeat at a parent who leads the prayer*

"Dear God, Thank you for this family. Please open our hearts and speak to each one of us. Bless this time together, Amen."

**Say:** Two weeks ago we learned about a dream that the king had. Do you remember that dream?

*Help kids recall the dream of an angel cutting down a tree & God humbling Nebuchadnezzar and making him eat grass like a cow.*

**Say:** Daniel had a very interesting dream. So interesting that he decided to write it down so that he could remember. What are some dreams that you remember having?

*Give time for kids to answer*

**Say:** All through the book of Daniel we have been asking our Big Picture Question: Why do we pray? *Have kids try to answer*

**Say:** We pray because we trust God, and we know He hears us. Daniel's dream is a reminder that God is always in control. And we can trust Jesus because His kingdom will never end

## **READ**

*Optional: give each person a pencil and paper to draw what they hear in Daniel's vision*

*Read Daniel 7 Read from either the story version below or from a children's Bible.*

## Daniel's Dream

*Daniel 7*

In the first year that Belshazzar (bel SHAZ uhr) was the king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream. In the dream, Daniel saw a big windstorm on the sea. Four big creatures came up from the sea, each different from the others. Daniel had never seen animals like these before.



The first creature was like a lion, but it had wings like an eagle. The second creature was like a bear.

It had three ribs in its mouth.

The third creature was like a leopard, but it had four wings on its back and four heads. The fourth creature was strong and scary; it had large teeth made of iron and destroyed everything in its path. This fourth creature had 10 horns.

Then Daniel saw a place in heaven with thrones. God sat down on a throne to judge the creatures. His hair and clothing were white like snow and His throne was like fire. God took away the creatures' power.

God allowed the first three creatures to live for a little while, but the creature with horns was killed.

Suddenly, the Son of Man came. God gave Him power to rule over everything. He was the king, and people of every nation and language served Him. His kingdom would last forever; it would

**never be destroyed.**

Daniel was frightened by his dream, but **God gave Daniel the ability to understand what the dreams meant. The four creatures were four kings who ruled on earth. Their rule would not last forever. God would give His people the kingdom forever and ever.**

Daniel did not tell anyone about his dream, but he wrote down everything he saw.

*Christ Connection: Jesus is King over all things. God allows people to rule for a short time, but one day Jesus will return and set up His perfect kingdom. Everyone who trusts in Jesus will be welcomed into His kingdom, and His kingdom will last forever.*

**Bible  
Storytelling Tips**

- **Listen and draw:**  
Provide paper and colored pencils for kids to illustrate the story as they listen. Challenge them to imagine what each creature looked like

**Take to Heart:** *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:** That is a pretty remarkable dream! How do you think you would feel in you saw those animals in a dream?

**Ask:** This dream was not an accident. It was given to Daniel by God for a very special reason. Why do you think God gave Daniel this dream?

**Say:** Each animal represented a different kingdom of the world. The lion represented the old kingdom of Babylon. The Bear was the kingdom of Medes and Persia. The Leopard was the Kingdom of Greece. And the scariest one, the represented the empire of Rome.

**Say:** Even though these kingdoms were very powerful, God wanted to remind Daniel that God has power over them.

**Ask:** In the dream, God was on a throne. What did God do while sitting on the throne?

**Say:** God was judging the other kingdoms. These other kingdoms eventually fell. But God’s kingdom is eternal. Because God never dies, He can judge

**Ask:** What does this dream tell us about how God judges? Is God a mean judge or a fair judge?



**Say:** God is the Ancient of Days. He is a good and a faith judge because he judges people by their heart—even powerful human leaders. When God judges in His Kingdom, it will last forever! And not even the scariest beast can stop God.

**Say:** The Bible tells us that when God looks at our heart, He finds sin. Everyone is guilty of that. God’s judgement of our sin will soon lead to death. Thankfully, Jesus died on the cross for our sins, so that we don’t have to die!

**Say:** Faith & repentance “covers us in Jesus.” That means when we stand before God the Judge, He looks at us and He does not see our sin, He sees Jesus. That’s the power of faith when we say sorry for our sins trust in Jesus to forgive us!

## **Practice Your Faith—do not fear**

Life can get scary sometimes, just like Daniel’s dream. What can you do when you feel scared?

*Explain that even in scary times, God is still in control. If we trust in Jesus we are sealed in the Holy Spirit (Eph. 4:30). Even though bad things happen while we wait for Jesus to return we don’t have to fear. We can pray to God and we know that he will hear us. God is bigger than anything we could ever fear, and He will destroy everything scary someday.*

**PRAY** *have a family member close in prayer*

“God you are amazing! Things in life change, but you stay the same. I thank you thank you that you are in control. That you are a good judge. And that you have sent Jesus to forgive our sins, so that you don’t see them anymore. Help us to trust you and to remember that you hear us when we pray. Amen!”

# THE GOSPEL

## GOD'S PLAN for US

The gospel is the good news, the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation. Use these prompts to share the gospel with your kids.



**GOD RULES.** Ask: "Who is in charge at home?" Explain that because God created everything, He is in charge of everything. Read Revelation 4:11.



**WE SINNED.** Ask: "Have you ever done something wrong?" Tell kids that everyone sins, or disobeys God. Our sin separates us from God. Read Romans 3:23.



**GOD PROVIDED.** Explain that God is holy and must punish sin. God sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment we deserve. Read John 3:16.



**JESUS GIVES.** Ask: "What is the best gift you've ever received?" Say that Jesus took our punishment for sin by giving His life, and He gives us His righteousness. God sees us as if we lived the perfect life Jesus lived. This is the best gift ever! Read 2 Corinthians 5:21.



**WE RESPOND.** Explain that everyone has a choice to make. Ask: "Will you trust Jesus as your Savior and Lord? You can turn from self and sin and turn to Jesus." Read Romans 10:9-10.

Hint 4  
Next Week:



Tip: Each week, focus on one aspect of "The Gospel" as a great way to share and explain the gospel to you own children!