



MUST KNOW BIBLE STORIES

stories worth exploring

Daniel and the Lions' Den

Second Level - Session 2



Session 2 – Daniel Prayed. What is Prayer?

Experiences and Outcomes	Benchmarks
<p>Through investigating and reflecting upon biblical and other Christian stories, I can show my understanding of these stories.</p> <p>RME 2-01a</p> <p>Through exploring the lives and teachings of Jesus and other figures in Christianity, I am increasing my knowledge and understanding of key Christian beliefs.</p> <p>RME 2-01b</p> <p>I can show understanding of Christian beliefs and explore the similarities and differences between these and my developing beliefs</p> <p>RME 2-01c</p> <p>Through investigating and reflecting upon the lives of Jesus and key Christian figures, and drawing upon moral values as expressed in Christianity, I am beginning to understand how these have influenced Christian morality.</p> <p>RME 2-02a</p> <p>I can share my developing views about values such as fairness and equality and love, caring, sharing and human rights.</p> <p>RME 2-02b</p> <p>I am developing respect for others and my understanding of their beliefs and values.</p> <p>RME 2-07a</p>	<p>Investigates, describes, explains and expresses an opinion with at least one reason on at least one belief from Christianity.</p> <p>Discusses ways in which own beliefs can affect actions.</p> <p>Investigates, describes, explains and expresses an opinion on at least one value from Christianity.</p> <p>Discusses ways in which own values can affect actions.</p> <p>Discusses and expresses views about the importance of values such as honesty, respect and compassion.</p>

Experiences and Outcomes	Benchmarks
<p>I can explain why different people think that values such as honesty, respect and compassion are important, and I show respect for others.</p> <p>RME 2-09c</p> <p>I am developing my understanding of how my own and other people's beliefs and values affect their actions.</p> <p>RME 2-09d</p>	



Suggested Learning Intentions

- Children will increase their understanding of the Christian practice of prayer.
- Children will be able to write a prayer as if they were Daniel.
- Children will identify what they are thankful for and discuss why it is good to be thankful.
- Children will identify when they may need help and discuss who they can ask for help.



Suggested Success Criteria

- I can give three reasons why Christians pray.
- I can demonstrate my knowledge and understanding of the story by writing a prayer as if I were Daniel including the elements of thankfulness, sorrow and asking for help.
- I can identify things I can be thankful for in a variety of situations.
- I can describe 2 circumstances I may need help and suggest an appropriate person I could ask for help in those circumstances.



Resources to Support this Activity

Children's Bible.

Quiz questions (available in additional resources)

Whiteboard to draw 'lions' on.

Whiteboards and pens.

Paper and pencils.

Sheets with outline of a person on. (available in additional resources)



Notes

- Please remember that it is the intention that this learning is extended into other curricular areas as described in the introductory document.
- Suggested amounts of time per activity have been included. This is a guideline.



Activity

1. Remind the children what we've been learning about. Recap the information in Activity 1 in 'Hear and Explore the Story'. Remember the story together by having a quiz. As each team gets a point draw part of a picture of a lion's face. The winning team is the team whose lion is completed first. There are quiz questions in additional resources. Alternatively read the story to them from a Children's Bible or find a film clip to watch. **5-10 minutes**

2. Discussion on what prayer is.

Remember together that Daniel prayed to God, that was what got him into trouble. Ask the children what they already know about prayer. Ask them to brainstorm in pairs. Feedback together and ask the children the following questions. (You may need to help them differentiate between different religions – who they pray to, how they pray.)

- What is prayer? If someone says they're praying, what are they doing? (Talking and listening to God)
- Where do you think Christians pray/talk to God? (Anywhere, doesn't have to be in church)
- When do you think Christians pray/talk to God? (Anytime, every day)
- How do you pray? (Children will often respond with 'put your hands together'. Affirm their answer. Teach them that Christians believe you can pray out loud or in your head, you can write prayers or draw prayers or sing prayers, sometimes walking, sometimes sitting quietly, you don't have to have your eyes shut and hands together.)
- 'What do Christians talk about when they pray?' (Anything! It can be helpful to suggest an outline of saying thank you, saying sorry and asking for help).
- 'Why do Christians pray?' (Because they know God can help them, because that's how they get to know God better).

10 minutes

3. Write a prayer as if we are Daniel.

Ask the children to imagine they're Daniel. What would he have said when he was praying to God? Use the outline – Thank you, sorry, please. What might he say thank you for, what might he say sorry for, what might he have

asked for help with? Use these thoughts and write a prayer as if you were Daniel. They should also include telling God how they (Daniel) is feeling. This can be done individually or in pairs. Ask the children to choose or allocate them a point in the story to consider, can they empathise with Daniel at this point in the story? This activity will also help them to consider how Christians might start or end prayers. **15-20 minutes**

4. Focus on thankfulness. When Christians pray they often say thank you to God. What do you think Daniel might have said thank you to God for – how many things can you think of together? Take the children through each part of the story – what might Daniel have said thank you for then? What could we say thank you for? Can we come up with a big list of all the things we could say thank you for? Could they make a thankfulness banner or bunting for their classroom? Why do they think it is good to remember things we can be thankful for? This could be extended to providing different situations (some easy times, some hard times) and asking the children to consider what they could be thankful for in each of those. **10-15 minutes**
5. Focus on asking for help. Daniel asked God for help when times were hard. Christians believe they can always ask God for help. Encourage the children to think – who do they ask for help at different times? Who do they have to support them? Come up with a list together of who can help us. Perhaps they can create a list of the different circumstances they may need help/ different kinds of help they may need. Can they identify people to ask in each circumstance/for each kind of help? Give each child a picture of an outline of a person (available in additional resources) and ask them to colour them in/ decorate them to look like someone who they ask for help. Ask them to write down around the person the reasons why they are someone they would ask for help. **15-20 minutes**