

Daniel Dialogue

Reading Guide for Daniel 6

God Protects Daniel & me!

Group Discussion

- Share a time when you felt betrayed. How did it make you feel and how did it impact your life?
- Have you ever had someone protect you? What did it feel like?

Kids Activity

Be a secret detective and see if you can find the hidden message in the word search—and colour in the picture.

Jealousy, betrayal—and protection!

If you have every felt betrayed, you will relate to this story. Darius the Mede reorganised his government and—“It pleased Darius to appoint 120 satraps to rule throughout the kingdom, with three administrators over them, one of whom was Daniel. The satraps were accountable to them so that the king might not suffer loss. Now Daniel so distinguished himself among the administrators and the satraps by his exceptional qualities that the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom.” Daniel 6:1-3. These honours bestowed upon Daniel aroused the jealousies of the other administrators and satraps and they sought “to find grounds for charges against Daniel”. Daniel 6:4.

DANIEL’S FAITHFULNESS TO THE KING verses 1-5

1. Daniel was absolutely dependable:

“They could find no _____ in him, because he was _____ and neither _____ nor _____.” Daniel 6:4

2. Compare the description of those who have been saved by Jesus:

“No lie was found in their mouths; they are _____.” Revelation 14:5

3. What was the only area in which Daniel’s accusers could find a basis for charges against him?

“Finally these men said, “We will never find any basis for charges against this man Daniel unless it has something to do with the _____.” Daniel 6:5

DANIEL’S FAITHFULNESS TO GOD verses 6-15

4. In his old age Daniel faced the greatest test of his loyalty to God:

Similarities		Differences	
Daniel 3	Daniel 6	Daniel 3	Daniel 6
1	_____	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____
3	_____	_____	_____

5. THE DEATH DECREE verses 6-9 Compare the decrees of Daniel chapters 3 and 6 ...

The decree of king Darius, written by Daniel's enemies, was similar to the decree of king Nebuchadnezzar in Daniel 3. Both decrees are typical of the accusations against those who are faithful to God in any age.

6. FAITHFUL IN THE FACE OF THE DEATH DECREE verse 10

Why did Daniel not yield to the demands of the decree? Daniel 6:10

ANS: 1. _____

2. _____

What is the guiding principle when there is conflict between God's counsel and a nation's laws?
See Acts 5:29

ANS: _____

7. CONVICTION BY FALSE ACCUSERS verses 11-15

Jesus said that the followers of God would always face opposition for standing up for what they believe in. Read Matthew 24:9-23

DANIEL'S GREATEST TEST verses 16-28

8. IMPRISONED: verse 16

What do you think Daniel might have been saying to God as he was being thrown into the lion's den? (God did not prevent Daniel's enemies from casting him into the den of lions.)

9. THAT NIGHT: verses 17-22

How did Darius spend the night in his royal palace? Daniel 6:17-20

ANS: _____

How did Daniel spend the night in the lion's den? Daniel 6:21,22

ANS: _____

10. PROTECTION: verse 23

Promises of protection ...

Psalm 91:1-15
Revelation 3:10

11. GOD WAS EXALTED: verses 24-28

Daniel chose to follow right no matter what the cost. Because of his courage and faithfulness, the name of God was exalted and honoured and Satan was defeated.

SOME THOUGHTS ...

"From the story of Daniel's deliverance we may learn that in seasons of trial and gloom God's children should be just what they were when their prospects were bright with hope and their surroundings all that they could desire. Daniel in the lion's den was the same Daniel who stood before the king as chief among the ministers of state and as a prophet of the Most High. A man whose heart is stayed upon God will be the same in the hour of his greatest trial as he is in prosperity, when the light and favour of God and man beam upon him. Faith reaches to the unseen and grasps eternal realities.

“Heaven is very near those who suffer for righteousness’ sake. Christ identifies His interests with the interests of His faithful people; He suffers in the person of His saints, and whoever touches His chosen ones touches Him. The power that is near to deliver from physical harm or distress is also near to save from the greater evil, making it possible for the servant of God to maintain his integrity under all circumstances and to triumph through divine grace.” - Ellen White, *The Story of Prophets and Kings*, p. 545

DISCUSSION

1. How could Daniel have such inner peace in the face of such a traumatic experience?
2. What were some of the outstanding character qualities of Daniel found in this chapter?
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
4. Share a time when God protected you. What was it like knowing that God was with you?
5. Was Daniel a policy man? Was he one who considered his political office the most important thing in life? What was of the greatest importance to Daniel?
6. **Kid’s DISCUSSION:** Did you discover the hidden message in the word search? God promises to protect us when we are scared or frightened. Are there some things you would like God to protect you from?
7. **Daniel 6:27 is a key verse in this story.** What does Daniel say that God can do?

FINAL PERSONAL WORD ...

The prophecy of Daniel 2 concerning the rise and fall of political powers throughout history is taken one step further in the prophecy of Daniel 7 which we will study in our next dialogue session.

The Bible predicted the rise of religious-political powers that would substitute human teachings for the Word of God as recorded in Scripture. In the next chapters we will discover the only safeguards against Satan’s deceptions and delusions.