

Class: 4-5 yr olds

Date:

Lesson #: VIII-4

Text: Daniel 5

Teacher: Monty & Bunda
Fueled

Memory Verse: Proverbs 29:25

Concept development

Inspired Scripture ~ Speaking through prophets

Lesson

Words to define: _____

Body: Tell the story of Daniel 5.

Then ask them questions like:
Who was the new young King?
What was he doing that made God so angry? What did the writing on the wall say? Who was able to tell Belshazzar what it meant?
Who sent the message?

~~Activities~~ Coloring pages ~ then Wed.
night cut out drawing of hand &
~~Questions~~ Let them glue it on a piece
of construction paper + write MENE
MENE TEKEL UPHARSIN (copied down on
another paper for them to copy.)

Daniel and the New Law

Many years later, a young king called Belshazzar ruled Babylon. One night, he gave a great banquet for his court, at which everyone became very drunk and rowdy. In his drunken haze, Belshazzar shocked his guests by sending for the golden cups that had been brought from the temple in Jerusalem. The king and his wives then used the sacred cups to drink to their own false gods.

God was so angry with Belshazzar that He wrote a message of doom on the wall in front of the king. Daniel explained to the terrified young man that the writing foretold the loss of his kingdom. And this is exactly what happened. Babylon was soon overrun by a new powerful enemy. The combined armies of the Medes and the Persians captured the city, and their king, Darius, took over the throne.

King Darius was the ruler of a vast empire, so he appointed one hundred and twenty officials to help control the provinces. In charge of the officials were three administrators, the chief of which was Daniel. Darius was a strong and wise king, and he had soon discovered that Daniel was the smartest and most trustworthy man at court.

Some of the other officials and administrators were bitterly jealous of Daniel and looked for a way to make him unpopular with the king. "The only way to be rid of him," one said, "is to find something about his Jewish religion that could get him into trouble."

Everyone knew that three times a day, Daniel knelt and prayed to God. They also knew that nothing would prevent him from worshipping the Lord. So Daniel's enemies thought of a plan.

"Your majesty," they said to King Darius.

"All the officials and administrators have decided that it would be advisable if you were to issue a new law. This states that anyone who wants to ask for anything at all during the next thirty days should only do so by consulting you. If anyone makes their request to another man or god, they are to be thrown into the lion's den."

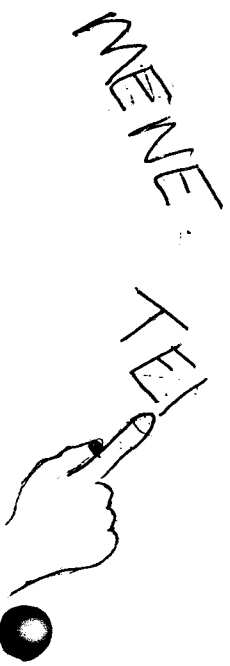
Darius thought this law would emphasize his supreme power, so he agreed to it and signed the document. He did not realize that it would be a trap for his devoted servant.

When Daniel heard about the new law, he guessed what his enemies were up to. But there was nothing he could do. As usual, three times a day, he knelt down to pray. The officials spied on Daniel and saw he was disobeying the law. They went to Darius and told him they had found someone who was disregarding his orders.

"Your majesty," they said. "Daniel pays no attention to the law that you have signed. He prays to his God three times a day." When

Darius heard this, he realized that he had walked straight into their trap. He trusted Daniel more than anyone else, and now he had to sentence him to death. The king tried to think of a way to rescue his friend, but he had no choice. He had agreed to the law and now he must carry it out.

"Daniel," said Darius gravely, "may your God, whom you worship, rescue you from the lions."



I will worship God and put him first.



159. THE WRITING ON THE WALL

(DANIEL 5:1-31)



"In the same hour came forth fingers of a man's hand, and wrote over against the candlestick upon the plaister of the wall of the king's palace: and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote."

DANIEL 5:5