

WEEK 34 | SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2026

Daniel: Trusting God No Matter What

Bible Passage: Daniel 6

Big Idea: We can trust God when we do not know what will happen next because the living God is faithful, and Jesus is always our hope.

1 MEMORY VERSE

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Daniel 6:26

He is the living God.

WHAT IT MEANS

These five words are simple enough for a young child to remember, but they tell us something wonderful about God. God is real and alive. He sees us, hears us, knows us, and remains faithful when everything around us changes.

Daniel trusted God because he had spent many years learning who God is.

Try asking your child: Who is God?

Let your child answer: "He is the living God."

2 TODAY YOUR CHILD LEARNED

Today your child learned that Daniel was probably an elderly man by the time he was thrown into the lions' den. His courage did not suddenly appear when danger came. Daniel had spent many years praying, working honestly, and learning to trust God.

Some jealous leaders convinced King Darius to make a law saying that no one could pray to anyone except the king for thirty days. Daniel knew the law had been signed, but Daniel 6:10 says he continued praying "just as he had done before."

Daniel was arrested and placed in a lions' den. God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths, and Daniel came out unharmed.

The lesson was not simply, "Be brave like Daniel." Daniel needed God. So do we.

3 WHY THIS LESSON MATTERS

Children will face things they cannot control. Sometimes they will pray and receive the answer they hoped for. Other times, something may still hurt after they pray.

Daniel 6 does not promise that enough faith will keep every painful thing away. Daniel trusted God before he knew what would happen.

That is the kind of trust we want our children to learn.

You might explain it this way: "Trusting God does not mean we know what will happen. It means we know God is good even when we do not know the ending."

4 JESUS IS OUR GREATER RESCUER

Daniel was placed behind a stone in a place where everyone expected him to die. Jesus was placed behind a stone after He actually died on the cross.

Daniel was rescued from death. Jesus defeated death.

Daniel needed someone to rescue him. Jesus came to rescue us.

We have all sinned, and we cannot erase our sin by trying harder. Jesus lived without sin, died for our sins, and rose again. Everyone who turns from sin and trusts Jesus can be forgiven.

Daniel shows us what trust can look like. Only Jesus can save us.

5 TALK ABOUT IT AT HOME

Why did the other leaders want to hurt Daniel? Suggested Answer: They were jealous because the king trusted Daniel and planned to give him more responsibility.

What did Daniel do after the law said he could not pray to God? Suggested Answer: He kept praying just as he had done before.

Did Daniel know that God would close the lions' mouths? Suggested Answer: The Bible does not tell us that he knew. Daniel trusted God before he knew how the night would end.

Who rescued Daniel? Suggested Answer: God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths.

Does trusting God mean nothing bad will ever happen? Suggested Answer: No. Christians still go through painful things, but God remains faithful and stays with His people.

How is Jesus greater than Daniel? Suggested Answer: Daniel was rescued from death. Jesus died for our sins and rose again. Daniel needed a rescuer, while Jesus is our Rescuer.

6 HELPING YOUR CHILD DEFEND THE TRUTH

Your child learned three simple questions that can help when someone challenges the Bible: What does the Bible really say? What do we know from history? What are we only guessing about?

For Daniel 6, the Bible says God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths. History confirms that Babylon was a real kingdom and that lions lived in this part of the ancient world.

History cannot prove the moment God performed the miracle, and we should never pretend that it can.

If someone says, "Lions would have eaten Daniel," your child can answer kindly: "You are right that lions are dangerous. The Bible says Daniel survived because God performed a miracle and shut their mouths."

Teach your child that saying "I do not know" is sometimes a very good answer. God's Word does not need us to make things up.

7 TRY THIS AS A FAMILY

Ask each person to name one thing they do not know how it will turn out. It might be a school problem, a friendship, a doctor visit, a change at home, or something else that feels uncertain.

Do not rush to fix every concern. Listen first.

Then say together: "He is the living God."

Pray about each concern and place it in God's hands. Remind your child, "We may not know the ending, but we know the living God who will be with us."

8 GOD IS ONE GOD IN THREE PERSONS

Your child continues learning this simple truth: "God is one God in three Persons."

The Father is God. Jesus the Son is God. The Holy Spirit is God. There are not three gods. There is one God in three Persons.

Daniel worshiped the one living God, and the whole Bible helps us understand more fully that this one God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

9 PRAYER TO PRAY TOGETHER

Father, thank You for being the living God. Thank You that You were faithful to Daniel and that You are faithful to us. Help us trust You when we do not know what will happen next. Thank You for Jesus, who died for our sins and rose again so we can be forgiven. Holy Spirit, help us grow to become more like Jesus. Help us ask good questions, tell the truth, and trust Your Word. In Jesus' name, amen.

10 A FINAL THOUGHT FOR PARENTS

Daniel's great night of courage grew out of many ordinary years of walking with God.

The same is true in our homes. A short prayer before school, telling the truth after a mistake, opening the Bible together, or talking honestly about a hard question may seem small. Those moments matter.

We are helping our children learn where to turn before the hard day arrives. And when it does, they do not need to believe they must somehow become as brave as Daniel.

They need to know the living God. They need Jesus.