

## GREAT FAITH

### Objectives:

- 1) Understand the concept of FAITH.
- 2) Recognize examples of FAITH.
- 3) Talk about their own personal FAITH.

**Worship** – Justin will lead the kids in 2 upbeat, fun songs – if he is not there you can pick a couple and ROCK OUT!

Re-cap rules (Written on POSTER - Worship and the rules usually take 10-15 minutes)

1. R-E-S-P-E-C-T – what does it mean – how do we show it...
2. 3 STRIKES – you get 3 strikes and a helper will walk you back to your parents (hitting is an automatic 3<sup>rd</sup> strike)
3. Raise your hand – QUIET
4. BATHROOMS - Introduce the helpers/leaders – kids only go if accompanied by an adult
5. BIBLE BUCKS!!!! (Bring Bibles or Friends and get a BIBLE BUCK!) – (Bible Bucks are in the scrap paper blue box - hand them out to the kids – instruct them to put them inside their Bibles so as not to lose them or be distracted by them)

**OPENING:** Begin by explaining that today we are talking about FAITH. Ask the kids – what is Faith? What does it mean to “have Faith” to be “faithful”? Once you feel the kids have an understanding of the word explain that this will be a game of charades. They will have to guess which “FAITH” story that is being acted out. You can either form teams of 2-3 kids or have them stay single. Tell them that you will ACT out the first one and then whoever guesses it will get to ACT OUT the following ones. Prepare note cards (or pieces of paper) with the names of each story beforehand. After each story discuss what it had to do with FAITH – who had faith? How they showed great faith? Etc...

### By Faith (Game)

Noah built an ark  
Genesis 7

Abraham offered his son as a sacrifice  
Genesis 22:1-19

Moses parted the Red Sea  
Exodus 13-14

The walls of Jericho fell down  
Joshua 6:1-27

David killed the giant Goliath  
1 Samuel 17

Daniel survived the den of lions  
Dan. 6:6-24

**BIBLE LESSON:** Technically you can pick any of the above stories to focus on for the FAITH BIBLE TIME, But here is a short lesson plan for Daniel in the Lion's den.

### **Daniel 6:6-24 (New Century Version)**

<sup>6</sup> So the supervisors and governors went as a group to the king and said: "King Darius, live forever!"<sup>7</sup> The supervisors, assistant governors, governors, the people who advise you, and the captains of the soldiers have all agreed that you should make a new law for everyone to obey: For the next thirty days no one should pray to any god or human except to you, O king. Anyone who doesn't obey will be thrown into the lions' den.<sup>8</sup> Now, O king, make the law and sign your name to it so that it cannot be changed, because then it will be a law of the Medes and Persians and cannot be canceled."<sup>9</sup> So King Darius signed the law.

<sup>10</sup> Even though Daniel knew that the new law had been written, he went to pray in an upstairs room in his house, which had windows that opened toward Jerusalem. Three times each day Daniel would kneel down to pray and thank God, just as he always had done.

<sup>11</sup> Then those men went as a group and found Daniel praying and asking God for help.<sup>12</sup> So they went to the king and talked to him about the law he had made. They said, "Didn't you sign a law that says no one may pray to any god or human except you, O king? Doesn't it say that anyone who disobeys during the next thirty days will be thrown into the lions' den?"

The king answered, "Yes, that is the law, and the laws of the Medes and Persians cannot be canceled."

<sup>13</sup> Then they said to the king, "Daniel, one of the captives from Judah, is not paying attention to you, O king, or to the law you signed. Daniel still prays to his God three times every day."<sup>14</sup> The king became very upset when he heard this. He wanted to save Daniel, and he worked hard until sunset trying to think of a way to save him.

<sup>15</sup> Then those men went as a group to the king. They said, "Remember, O king, the law of the Medes and Persians says that no law or command given by the king can be changed."

<sup>16</sup> So King Darius gave the order, and Daniel was brought in and thrown into the lions' den. The king said to Daniel, "May the God you serve all the time save you!"<sup>17</sup> A big stone was brought and placed over the opening of the lions' den. Then the king used his signet ring and the rings of his royal officers to put special seals on the rock. This ensured that no one would move the rock and bring Daniel out.<sup>18</sup> Then King Darius went back to his palace. He did not eat that night, he did not have any entertainment brought to him, and he could not sleep.

<sup>19</sup> The next morning King Darius got up at dawn and hurried to the lions' den.<sup>20</sup> As he came near the den, he was worried. He called out to Daniel, "Daniel, servant of the living God! Has your God that you always worship been able to save you from the lions?"

<sup>21</sup> Daniel answered, "O king, live forever!<sup>22</sup> My God sent his angel to close the lions' mouths. They have not hurt me, because my God knows I am innocent. I never did anything wrong to you, O king."

<sup>23</sup> King Darius was very happy and told his servants to lift Daniel out of the lions' den. So they lifted him out and did not find any injury on him, because Daniel had trusted in his God.

<sup>24</sup> Then the king commanded that the men who had accused Daniel be brought to the lions' den. They, their wives, and their children were thrown into the den. The lions grabbed them before they hit the floor of the den and crushed their bones.

### Discussion Questions:

1. How did the evil men know that Daniel would not give up his praying to God? (*his reputation for being faithful to God*)
2. Did the king want to throw Daniel in the den of lions? (*no*)  
Then why did he? (*he was bound by a written decree*)
3. How did Daniel show he had faith in God after he heard the decree? (*He went home and prayed anyway*)
4. Daniel said he was saved because he was found innocent in God's sight, innocent of what?  
(*being disobedient, not being faithful to God, etc.*)
5. What are some situations in your life where having faith in God helps?

Object Lesson  
**Unseen Faith**  
by Craig

***This object talk demonstrates how faith in our Lord can help us from being crushed by fear.***

### Materials:

2 plastic water bottles  
Old glove

### Topics:

Courage, Faith, Power,  
Protection, Stand Firm,  
Trials,



Trust

**Duration:**

Approximately 5 minutes

**Target Audience:**

Grades 1-6 (Ages 6-12)

**Preparation:**

Before class, take an old glove and draw or glue the following letters on the knuckles: F - E - A - R

**What you will do:**

You will take two empty plastic water bottles, and tightly cap one of them. Do not cap the other bottle. During class, you will put on the glove and form a fist to show the word fear. Then you will hit both bottles. The uncapped bottle will crush, but the one that has the cap on tight will not crush. You will compare the uncapped bottle to a person without faith, and the capped bottle to a person who has faith. Although faith itself is not visible, what faith produces is easy to see.

**What you will say:**

Today I want to demonstrate how we can see faith. Here I have two empty plastic bottles. They look the same, but there is a difference. This one with a cap is full of faith. You cannot see it now, but it is there. The other bottle has not faith; it is empty. (Put on the glove showing the word fear.) What do you think will happen to this bottle with no faith when fear comes along? (Allow for answers, and then smash the bottle with your fist.) See, fear was able to crush it. What about this bottle filled with faith? (Hit the capped bottle.) Look, fear could not crush it. In fact, it does not even look hurt. With faith, we too get strength from God. Jesus once said to his disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?" (Mark 4:40) We cannot see faith itself, but what faith produces we can see quite easily, such as strength, courage, peace of mind, and self-control. We do not need to worry or be afraid of anything when we have faith in Jesus.

**Application**

So will faith save us? The Bible says we are saved by grace through faith. Daniel was one of the many great men of faith. Although he knew that disobeying a decree meant death, he would not give up his faith, even for his own life. We will never know if Daniel went into the lion's den believing he would survive. We do know that he prayed to God for help, but that could have been help to withstand the pain or to die quickly. In any case, we can know for sure because of his faith that he believed he was in God's care. Having faith in God means to allow Him to be in control of our lives. If we faithfully obey and give Him our praise, He will give us the courage to do whatever He wants us to do, or go wherever He wants us to go. But I hope it's not into a den of lions.

**Prayer Ideas –**

Take some time with the kids asking them for examples when their FAITH in God has helped them through hard times. Open the prayer by THANKING God for the Gift of His Son, Jesus, and expressing JOY and comfort in your personal FAITH in Jesus and close it in thanking HIM for the gift of this morning and FAITH, AMEN!

## **SNACK**

### **ACTIVITY/CRAFT:**

#### **1. Puzzle**

[See attached PDF file](#)

#### **2. GAME – the Guessing GAME**

Directions: Have the children sit in a circle on the floor or in chairs. Have a paper bag or sack that contains some interesting objects like an apple, a pencil, a paper cup, etc. Make sure there is nothing sharp in the bag. Blindfold a child with a handkerchief. Let that child pull an item out of the bag. Have them try to guess what object they are holding. If they are right, give that child a small prize (sucker or sticker), leave the object out of the bag, and have them return to their seat. If the child guess incorrectly, let them sit back down and be eligible for another turn. Let the children take turns until everyone has guessed something correctly and won a prize.