



Daniel and King Nebuchadnezzar

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Lesson Overview

In today's lesson, we're going to learn about a prideful king and a normal guy. King Nebuchadnezzar was the king of Babylon, a powerful nation that conquered Judah. The king took a lot of valuable things from Judah, including strong young men. One of those young men was named Daniel. He was brought to Babylon to work for the king. One day, King Neb had a really crazy dream and he wanted to understand its meaning. He brought in some guys hoping they could interpret the dream. When they couldn't, King Neb got angry and wanted to hurt people, including Daniel. Daniel prayed and asked God to give him the meaning of the dream. And guess what? God did and Daniel went to the king to share it. The king rewarded Daniel and gave him a powerful position. But, then the king had an even crazier dream and God revealed its meaning to Daniel again. But this time the dream was about King Neb being punished for being prideful. God was going to take away his power until he recognized that everything he had came from God. We need to learn this lesson, too. When we have success or fame, we need to remember to give God the honor, not ourselves.

Big Idea

If you ever get to the top, remember who put you there.

Key Question

What does it mean to be humble?

Memory Verse

Daniel 2:21 "God controls the course of world events..."

Classroom Agenda

1. (5 min) **Let kids start working on Activity Page #1.**
2. (5 min) **WARM UP: If you could be the best at something, what would you be famous for doing?**(Tip: Maybe it would be as an athlete or scientist. We need to watch out for fame and pride, though. It can get us in trouble.)
3. (5 min) **PREVIEW: Write out the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question on a whiteboard.** Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1 (if applicable).
4. (20 min) **LARGE GROUP: Gather for songs and videos with other kids.** Then return to class to finish this guide.
5. (2 min) **RECAP: Read the Lesson Overview (see above).**
6. (3 min) **KQ: Answer the Key Question.** (Answer: **You don't think you're better or more important than others.** (This was King Neb's problem. He let his power and wealth go to his head. He thought he was the best king because he was great. But the truth is, everything he had came from God. That's true for us, too. Our success comes from God. We should be thankful to God for all he's given us rather than admiring ourselves.)
 - **Bonus Questions:** What does it mean to be humble? Who should get credit for our success? **4th-5th:** What are you good at and how can you show your thanks to God for giving you those abilities?
7. (5 min) **EXPLORE: Read Romans 12:3. What is Paul warning us about? Why is pride dangerous?** (Answer: Paul is warning us about pride. Pride is thinking we're great, not that God is great. Pride fools us into thinking that all of our success comes from our own abilities rather than gifts God has given us. Pride takes our focus off of God and puts it on ourselves and that's not good.)
8. (10 min) **PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.**
9. (5 min) **CLOSE: Share prayer requests and pray as a class.** Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents - and remind them to go online to pursueGODkids.org to find this week's lesson video.

Teacher instructions: Choose an activity for your classroom.

OPTION 1: WATCH OUT FOR PRIDE RELAY

Instructions:

- Before playing, tape two lines at each end of the room. Divide the class into two teams. Give each team a set of items (robe, hat and sunglasses).
- When you say "Go", have the teams race to get the articles on one kid and then that kid has to run to the other end of the room and back. Then, help the next kid in line put on the articles. First team to get all the kids through, wins.

Supplies needed: Tape, 2 sets (robe, hat, sunglasses)

OPTION 2: D IS FOR DANIEL CRAFT

Instructions:

- Give each kid a letter D template (page 5) and a half sheet of construction paper. Have the kids glue the D onto the paper and then have them color their letter.
- Then have them glue the statements on their letter.
- As they work, read the story of Daniel and King Neb from Daniel 1:1-5 and 2:26-28. Remind the kids that pride is dangerous. Pride is thinking we're great, not that God is great. It's better to be humble, recognizing that every success comes from gifts God gives us.

Supplies needed: 1/2 sheets of construction paper (1 per kid), Letter D template (pg. 5, pre cut, 1 set per kid), Crayons, Glue



Hey kids and parents! Fill in the blanks as you talk about this week's lesson together. Have fun!

Key Points

- _____ helped Daniel get to the top in Babylon.
- King Nebuchadnezzar had a crazy _____ that only Daniel could interpret.
- King Nebuchadnezzar went _____ so God could show him who was really in charge.
- If you ever get to the _____, remember who put you there!

Big Idea

If you ever get to the top, remember who put you there.

Key Question

What does it mean to be humble?

Memory Verse

Daniel 2:21 "God controls the course of world events..."

Talk About It

1. What's your favorite part of the video? What's one thing you learned from it?
2. If you could be the best at something, what would you be famous for doing?
3. Who are the main characters in the story? How did Daniel end up in Babylon?
4. What did King Neb need help with? How was Daniel able to interpret the dreams?
5. Read Romans 12:3. What is Paul warning us about? Why is pride dangerous?
6. How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?

Instructions: Color the picture.

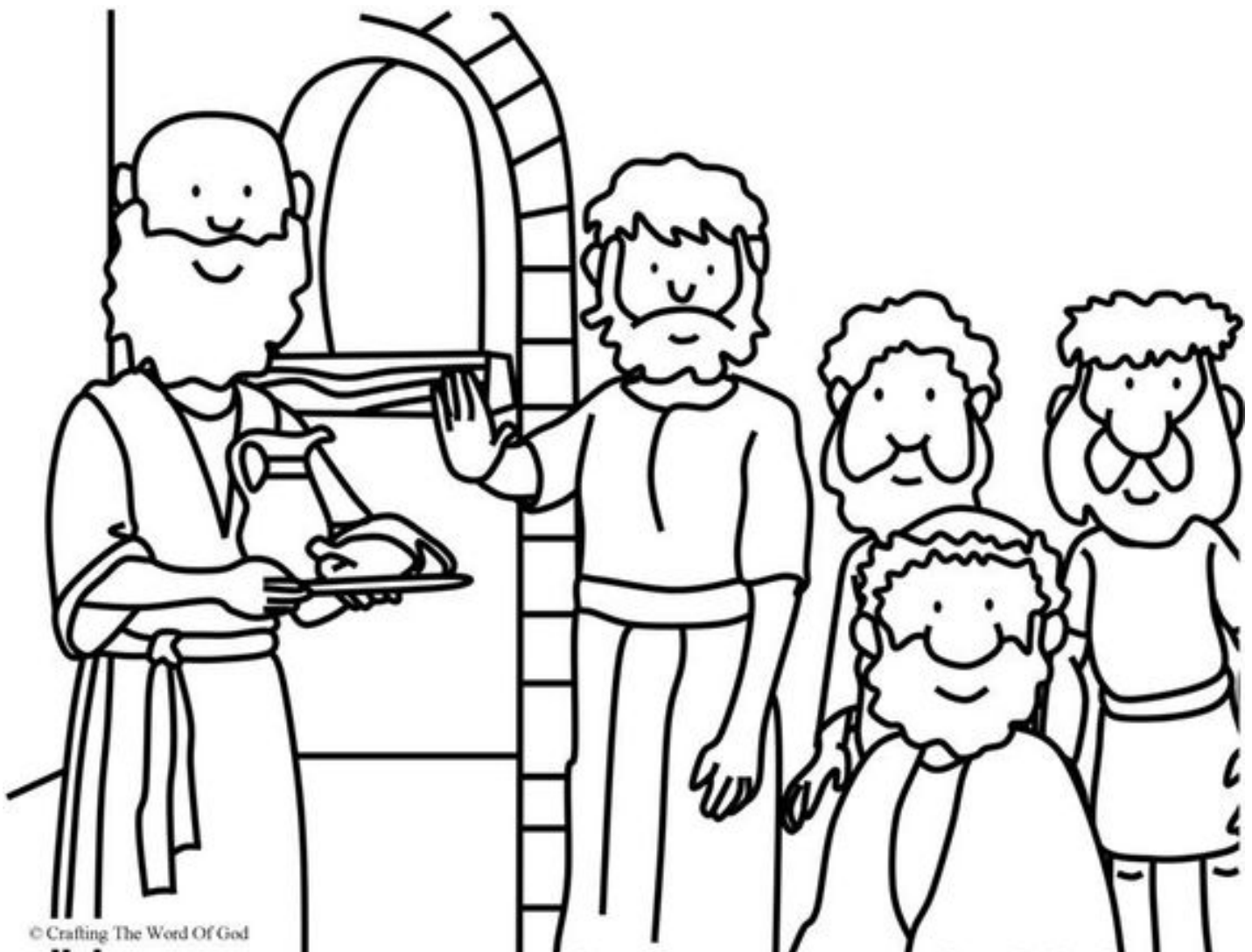
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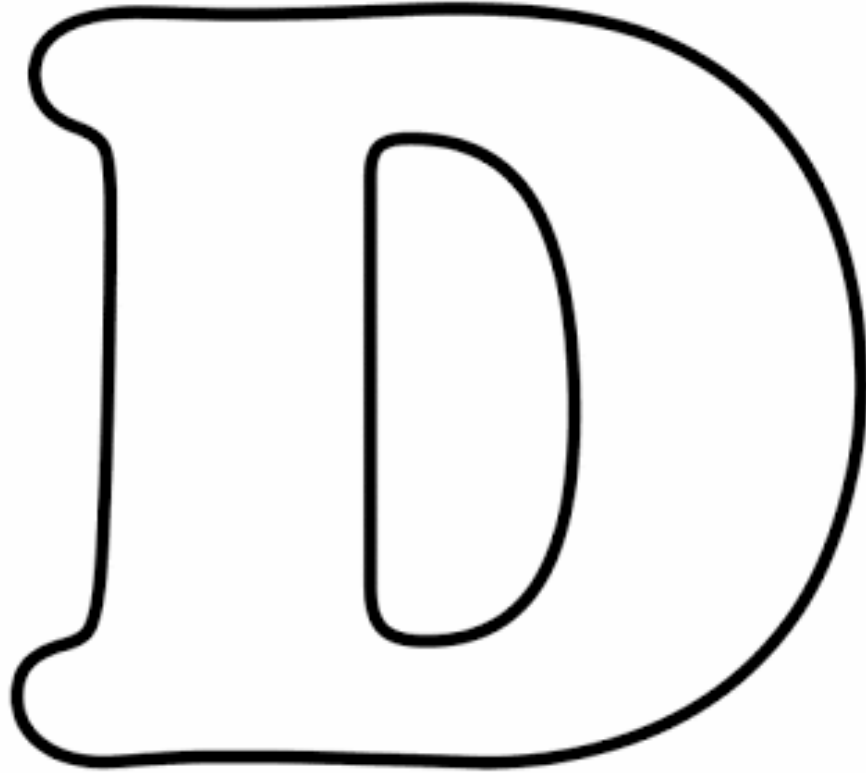
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DANIEL WAS TAKEN TO BABYLON TO SERVE THE KING	DANIEL ASKED GOD TO HELP HIM INTERPRET THE DREAM	THE KING PROMOTED DANIEL TO A PLACE OF POWER	KING NEB LEARNED THAT HIS POWER CAME FROM GOD
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