

WEEK 2

GOD IS PROVIDER GOD PROVIDES SECURITY

PRIMARY LESSON GUIDE



THE FOUR KEYS

KEY VERSE

And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. Colossian 1:17

KEY IDEAS

1. God created all things and holds all things together
2. Nothing is outside of God's control
3. God is our Protector and Sustainer

KEY PASSAGE

Daniel 6:10-24

KEY PRINCIPLES



EVERY CHILD SHOULD KNOW . . .

God who created all things also sustains all things.



EVERY CHILD SHOULD FEEL . . .

protected by the God who holds everything in His hands.



EVERY CHILD SHOULD BE ABLE TO . . .

trust that God takes care of His creation.



EVERY CHILD SHOULD WANT . . .

to follow the God who is in control of all outcomes.

INTRODUCTION

God is the One who not only creates life, but He sustains it. The very breath in our lungs comes from God, and He is the source of all life in heaven and on earth. Nothing lives apart from Him, and everything we have has been given to us because of Him. Everything God gives is good, and He takes care of His children. Jesus says in Matthew 6:25-33 that life is more than what we eat or drink, and we should not worry that He will provide what we need. The birds of the air do not store away their food, and yet the Father feeds them. The flowers of the field do not spin yarn for clothing and yet the grass is beautifully adorned with them. God takes great care in all of His creation, and people are His greatest creation because we are made in His image. We can trust our Father can take greater care of us than we can for ourselves.

OPENING ILLUSTRATION

Begin class by bringing in a bowl of water. Show the class the bowl and explain that it represents the world. Next, sprinkle black pepper into the bowl, covering the surface of the water. Explain that the pepper represents the sin in the world. Then, take a popsicle stick and put it in the water, demonstrating that the sin in the world surrounds it. Take a second popsicle stick, dip it in a cup that contains liquid dish detergent. Explain that the detergent represents God's protection over us when we go out into the world. Instruct the children to watch closely what happens when you take that stick and dip it into the water. Tell them that just like the stick was protected against the harmful things in the world, God protected Daniel, who our story is about today.

****Note: the effect will only happen once. You must refill the bowl with new water and pepper to do it again. ****

STORY

Read Daniel 6:10-24 or use the Jesus Storybook Bible.

Daniel was an Israelite who was wise and respectful. More importantly, Daniel loved God with all his heart. When Daniel was young, he and all the other Israelites had been taken away from their home to live in another country and serve a different king. God had protected Daniel and his friends. Now that Daniel was older, he worked for the King of Persia, Darius. King Darius liked Daniel, but other men who worked for the king did not. They tried to catch Daniel doing wrong, but Daniel faithfully obeyed God and honored the king. Three times a day, Daniel went to his room and prayed to God with his window open, showing His love for God. The men who did not like him encouraged the king to make a law they knew Daniel would not be able to obey. The king didn't know their schemes, and he did as they said. The law required that no one could pray to anyone except King Darius. Daniel would not pray to anyone other than God, so he continued to pray as he always had. The men quickly ran to report to the king that Daniel was breaking the law. King Darius was sad because he liked Daniel, but he had to keep his word. So, Daniel was sent to the lion's den. As Daniel was about to be thrown in, King Darius told him, "May your God, who you serve continually, rescue you!" The door slammed shut, leaving Daniel with the hungry lions.

What happened after Daniel was put in the lion's den?

How did God rescue him?

What did the king want the people of his kingdom to do after Daniel's life was spared?

ACTIVITY

Use the template provided to help kids create paper bag lion puppets. Allow the children to color their lions and help them cut and glue them to the bottom of a brown bag. Use the bags to illustrate how God closed the mouths of the lions to protect Daniel and bring glory to Himself as the ultimate Provider and Protector.

PRAYER

Thank God that He is our Protector from evil. Ask God to help you trust that He is our great and mighty Protector!

SONG

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands by We Sing Bible Songs

FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

Psalms 139, Isaiah 41:10, 2 Thessalonians 3:13

ACTIVITY

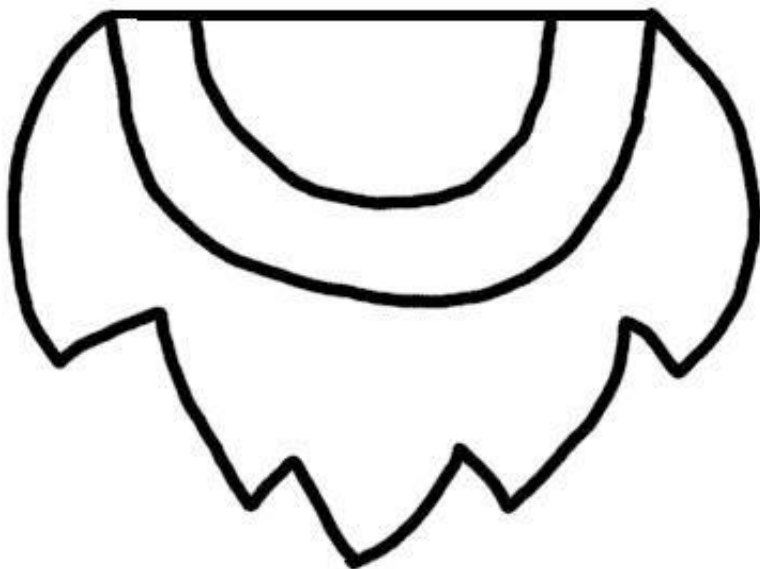
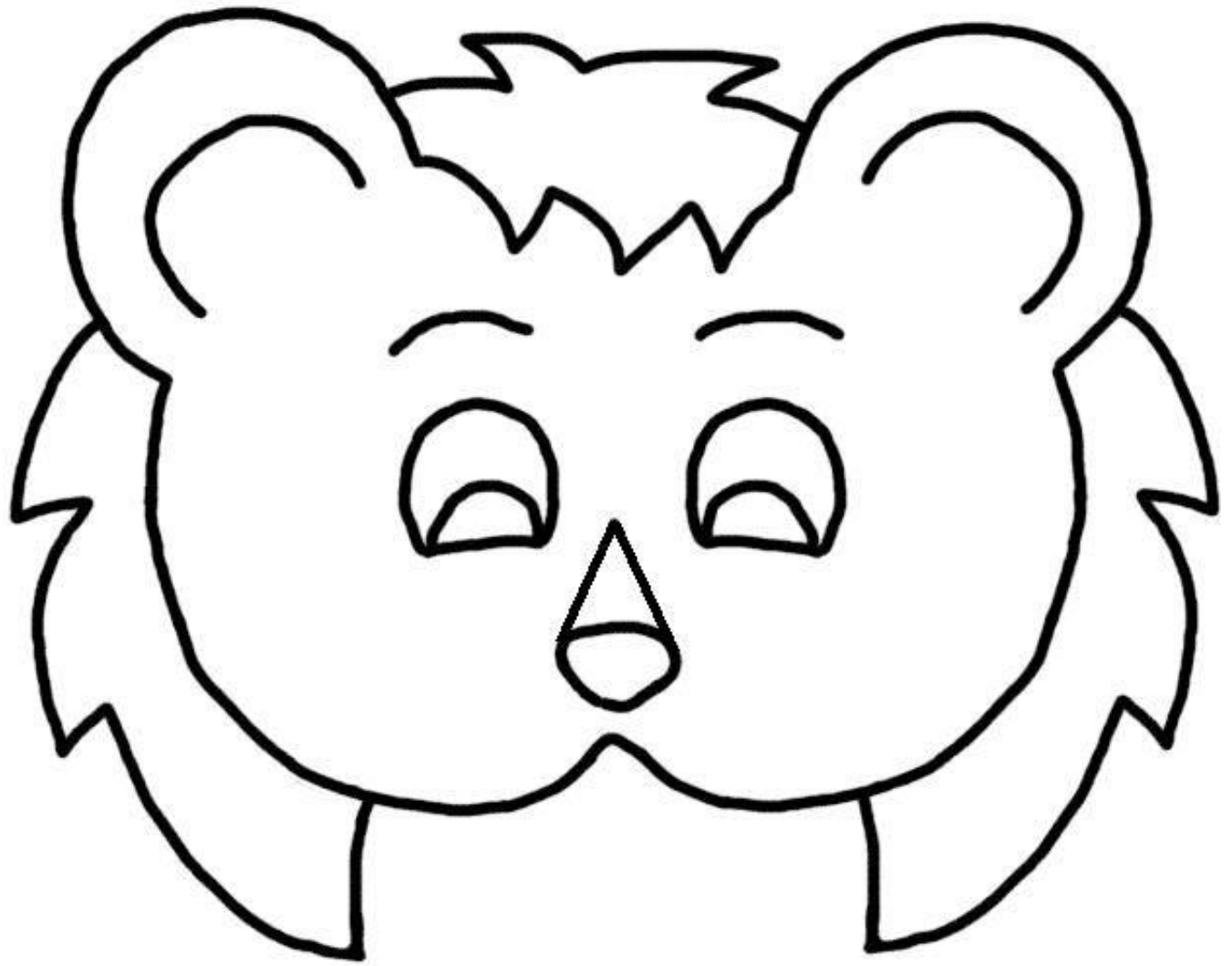
Using the activity sheets provided in your take home packet and the discussion questions below to review this week's lesson. Discuss how even though God allowed Daniel to be thrown into the den of lions, Daniel saw it as an opportunity to show everyone that he still trusted God to protect him. He knew that no matter what might happen, God had a purpose for him. Because of Daniel's faith, God showed King Darius and all of Persia that He is the One True God!

DISCUSSION

- What caused the lion's mouth to close?
God protected Daniel from the mouths of the lions because He has complete and total control of all outcomes. Daniel trusted in God to protect him and God did a miracle, showing the people that He truly is the One True God.
- What happens when we trust God above man?
It can seem scary to stand up for God when no one else does or in the face of serious danger, but God blesses those who follow Him and put their trust in Him.

PRAYER

Thank God for being our ultimate Protector. Ask God to help you trust Him even when life gets scary.



The Lions' Den

Can you be as successful with the lions as Daniel was?
Find your way through the maze without going through
any lion cages.



In



Out

Yay!
The lions
didn't
get you!



Daniel in the lion's den