

LEVEL 4, QUARTER D

World Ambassadors

Additional Activities

1. Junk Food

What's in a Name? (5-10 minutes)

This research activity reminds kids that names have importance and special meaning. **Supplies:** baby name books

Bring in a book of Hebrew baby names or look online and print out a list. Let children choose a Hebrew name and write it and the name's meaning on a nametag. Talk about why they chose that name. Also set out baby name books for kids to look up the meanings of their names.

Postcards from Babylon (5-10 minutes)

This creative writing activity highlights what the children learned from the lesson. **Supplies:** notecards

Have the children pretend to be a captive taken to Babylon and write a postcard home to their families. Encourage the children to consider how Daniel and his friends might have felt and what they might have experienced. On the other side of the postcard, kids might draw what they think Babylon looked like.

Obedience Quiz (10-15 minutes)

This small group discussion helps children analyze when it is easy or hard to obey. **Supplies:** notecards (optional)

Write these questions on the board or make up notecards with these questions. Have kids get in small groups of three to five and answer the questions.

- When do you find it the easiest to obey?
- When do you find it the hardest to obey?
- What is the easiest thing to obey from your parents?
- What is the hardest thing to obey from your teacher?
- What is the easiest thing to obey from God's Word?
- What is the hardest thing to obey from God's Word?

Gather the children back into a large group and ask volunteers to share some answers from their groups. **Why is obedience so important to God?** Let kids respond. **On a scale of 1-10 with 1 being low and 10 being high, where would you place obeying God in your life?** Have kids hold up fingers to show the number they'd rate obedience. Spend some time letting children volunteer to pray and ask God to help them place a high value on obeying Him and for courage to be obedient. Conclude by reading Acts 5:29 together.

2. Dream On!

Comic Strip (5-10 minutes)

This drawing activity allows kids to review what they learned from the lesson. **Supplies:** paper, pencils, markers

Have children work together in small groups to write and illustrate a comic strip that depicts Daniel 2. Let each group show the class their comic strips. Place their creations on a bulletin board or display them in a hallway.

God Knows the Future (10-15 minutes)

This research project reveals that God knew the future and accurately revealed it to Nebuchadnezzar and Daniel. **Supplies:** ancient history books

Set out some ancient history books and let the children look up information about the empires mentioned in King Nebuchadnezzar's dream. Have the kids research the Babylonian Empire from 606—539 BC; the Persian Empire from 539—331 BC; the Greek Empire from 331—30 BC; and the Roman Empire from 30 BC—397 AD.

Revelation Praises and Prayers (10 minutes)

This praise and prayer time reminds students of God's ability to reveal Himself. **Supplies:** paper, pencils

God reveals many things to us through His Word, the Holy Spirit, and other people. The Bible reveals God's love for us that He sent His Son to die for our sins. Daniel praised God as soon as God revealed the dream to him. Let's write a praise prayer or song to God thanking Him for revealing His love to us.

Let students get together in small groups and write a prayer or song. Some students may want to draw a praise to God.

Around the world are many cultures and countries where it is dangerous for believers in Christ. Many countries don't allow people to openly tell others about Jesus. In many of these countries, people have experienced dreams or visions of Jesus. Pray for God to reveal Himself to people through dreams and visions and to send a Christian to interpret these dreams for them.

3. Fired Up!

Bible Search (10-15 minutes)

This research activity reveals God's promises to protect His believers. **Supplies:** Bible concordance

Set out Bible concordances and have the children look up verses about God's protection. Have the children look up these words: protect, protector, protection. Spend time discussing what they discovered.

Heroes of the Faith (10 minutes)

This discussion activity introduces others who risked their lives to serve God. **Supplies:** Bibles

Read and discuss Hebrews 11:32-40. See if kids can find the references to Daniel and to the three Hebrew men. **What did these people do that made them heroes?** Encourage responses. **What kinds of dangers did they face?** Let children respond. **These heroes of the faith were sometimes miraculously victorious. Sometimes they sacrificed their very lives after tremendous suffering for serving God. When will they receive their final reward?** (At the final judgment.)

Ways of Protection (10 minutes)

This letter game motivates children to think about ways God protects them in different situations.

Write the word "Protection" vertically on the board. Use words or statements that start with or have the letter within it to create an acrostic with the word "Protection." The words or statements should reflect how God protects His children. Take the children's responses and fit them into the acrostic.

Example:

God's **P**romises
 Provides ou**R** homes and food.
 Helps me with b**O**ldness to obey Him.
 Wa**T**ched over me during surgery.
 Sav**E**d my family from an accident.

He helped my friend through **C**ancer treatments.
 God answered prayer for safe **T**ravel during the holidays.
 God **L**istens to my prayers.
 Jesus saves all **p**e**O**ple who love Him.
 Jesus forgave my sins a**N**d I received eternal life!

4. Humble Pie

No Pride Posters (10-15 minutes)

This art project illustrates the problems that come with pride.

Supplies: Bible concordance, paper, pencils, markers

Set out art supplies and paper. Encourage the children to use a concordance to find Bible verses and things they learned from today's lesson to make a poster warning people about pride. Display the posters in the hallway.

Pride vs. Humility (10-15 minutes)

This creative thinking game helps kids identify reasons for pride and rewards of humility.

Write the word "pride" down the side of the board. Have students write in reasons why someone might act prideful. Each answer should begin with a letter from the word. Example: p—put down other people so they feel better, r—remember being hurt by someone and want to be better than the person, etc.

Then write the word "humble" on the board. Have students write in reasons why it is better to act humbly before God than to be proud. Examples: h—He will lift you up, u—until you are humble you won't get God's rewards, etc.

5. Bye Bye Babylon

What Does This Say? (5-10 minutes)

This translation game allows children to decode messages written in a foreign language. **Supplies:** foreign language dictionaries

Bring in some foreign language dictionary books for the students to try writing a message in a foreign language. Let the kids trade messages and try to figure out what the message says. Remind the children that Daniel didn't have the benefit of using a dictionary or translation guide. Talk about the amazing power God gave him to know the interpretation.

Another Arrogant King (10-15 minutes)

This compare and contrast activity helps kids see how God dealt with two different arrogant kings. **Supplies:** Bibles

Explain that Saul was another arrogant king found in the Bible. Read 1 Samuel 15 and discuss what Saul did that was arrogant and brought judgment from God. Then compare and contrast Belshazzar with Saul. Create a Venn diagram (two circles with an overlapping area). Label one circle Belshazzar and one circle Saul. In the overlapping area, write their similarities. In the large part of the circles, write their differences.

Another Humble Hero (10-15 minutes)

This compare and contrast activity helps kids see the benefits of humility. **Supplies:** Bibles

Explain that Joseph was another humble hero. Compare and contrast Daniel with Joseph. Create a Venn diagram (two circles with an overlapping area). Label one circle Daniel and one circle Joseph. In the overlapping area, write their similarities. In the large part of the circles, write their differences. Provide highlights from Joseph's life (Genesis 37,39,41) for kids to use.

6. Lion Down**Daniel's Resume** (10 minutes)

This creative writing activity highlights the exceptional qualities of Daniel. **Supplies:** paper, pencils, Bibles, sample resumes

Daniel was an amazing man of God. Two kings noticed his abilities and strengths. Have kids write a resume for Daniel citing all of his exceptional qualities that would show he qualified for a top spot as the administrator over the entire kingdom. Let children share their resumes with the class.

Lion Research (10-15 minutes)

This research activity shows children just how amazing it was that Daniel was rescued from the lions. **Supplies:** encyclopedias or books about lions

Set out a variety of materials for the kids to research about lions. Encourage the children to find out what to feed lions and how often they eat and how much. Students can draw pictures or write up a fact sheet of things they learn about lions.

7. Daunting Dream**End Times** (10-15 minutes)

This research time helps children begin to study and think about the end times. **Supplies:** books about the end times

Set out any books about the end times that are accessible. Encourage the children to read the book of Revelation. Discuss any beliefs your church teaches about the end times. Use this as a research time for children to start studying and finding answers to questions they have about end times.

Model Beasts (5-10 minutes)

This art project encourages kids to create what they imagine the beasts in Daniel's dream looked like. **Supplies:** play dough

Using play dough, let the kids make models of what they think the four beasts in Daniel's dream looked like. Display the beasts for others to see. Let the clay harden and keep the models for the rest of the quarter.

Prayers for the Lost (10-15 minutes)

This prayer time encourages kids to intercede for the lost.

Not everyone has heard about Jesus' forgiveness of sins and His desire for them to be part of His family. When we belong to Jesus, we know we are on the side of the kingdom that will rule for eternity. Let's take time to intercede for people who don't know Jesus as their Savior. Have children get into small groups and make a list of people to tell about Jesus. Pray and name each person on your list. Ask God to use you as a witness. Encourage children to spend time any extra time praying for people in other countries.

8. No Kidding**My Mascot** (10 minutes)

This creative activity allows children to think about their strengths. **Supplies:** paper, pencils

In Daniel's dreams, he saw animals that represented kingdoms. If you were to have your own mascot, what would it be and why? Let the kids respond. Pass out paper and let each child draw a mascot.

Predictions (10 minutes)

This quick game highlights how difficult it is to make accurate predictions. **Supplies:** paper, pencils

Give each child a piece of paper and a pencil. Write the word "predictions" down the side of the board. Have the kids copy the word and then make predictions for the coming week. Each prediction should begin with one of the letters in the word "predictions." Let the students read their list of predictions to the class. Tell the children to bring their lists back next week and see if any predictions came true.

Nothing Is Too Small (10-15 minutes)

This discussion encourages kids to look for God's involvement in the small details of their lives. **Supplies:** paper, pencils, art supplies for decorating

Sometimes we think we shouldn't bother God with small things. God wants us to talk to Him about anything that concerns us. What are some small details of your life that concern you? Allow children to answer. **How might God work in those areas?** Encourage responses.

Remember, nothing is too small for God to notice. Matthew 10:29 states that God knows when a sparrow falls to the ground. Make a journal to record the ways God cares about the details of your life. Set out paper and art supplies and let kids make a journal.

9. Seventy "Sevens"**Daniel Posters** (10-15 minutes)

This art project allows kids to illustrate the interpretation of the seventy sevens. **Supplies:** poster board or large paper, markers

Let the children think of creative ways to illustrate the timeline of the seventy sevens. Encourage the kids to use the information given on **page 34-35** of their DiscipleLand Guides. Children can work alone or together in groups. Allow time for an art show when all the posters are displayed.

Time of Your Life (0 minutes)

This object lesson helps bring perspective to waiting seventy years.

Supplies: yarn or string, markers

What were you doing seven years ago? Allow children to share something about their lives seven years ago. **What do you think you will be doing seven years from now?** Give each child an opportunity to answer. **We don't know our future, but God does. Life expectancy for people in the United States is about 80 years.**

Give each child a piece of string or yarn and a marker. Mark off your piece of yarn into eleven separate seven-year increments. Have the children color on their string to show their current age. Let the children talk about some of the things they hope to accomplish during the different stages of their lives.

What would you do if you were getting near the end of your life, and you knew that God hadn't fulfilled a certain promise to you? Let the students respond. **Daniel was wondering about a promise God had made concerning Israel and seventy years. He went to God in prayer and was told exactly how God was going to fulfill his promise to Israel.**

Seventy Sevens (10 minutes)

This fast-paced drawing activity teases kids about what the seventy sevens meant in Daniel's vision. **Supplies:** paper, pencils

Seven may sound like just any number, but it is a very special number in the Bible. In fact, it is the subject of Daniel's vision in chapter 9. Let's make some props that will help us understand Daniel's vision. You may draw anything you like, but there must be seven of it drawn on the paper. When you fill one paper with seven objects, take another, and we'll continue until we have seventy papers full of seven items.

Cut paper into seventy strips or small pieces. Divide the class into small groups. Set a stack of papers on the table in front of each group of children. Let the children quickly draw seven of anything on each paper such as cars, dots, horses, alphabet letters, etc.

What is the total number of items drawn in our seventy sevens? (490.) We will use these groups of seven to help us understand what the angel Gabriel told Daniel about seventy sevens. Use the papers in place of the paper clips during *Explore Scripture*.

Prayer Intercessors (10 minutes)

This interactive activity teaches kids to learn more about prayer.

Supplies: members of your church's prayer team

Invite members of your church's prayer team to come and talk to the class about prayer. Ask them to share stories of answers to prayers and things they've learned about prayer. Let the children share what they've learned about Daniel's prayer and why it received such an immediate answer. Give the kids an opportunity to ask questions they may have about prayer. If possible, have the prayer team pray with the children. You may want to have copies of your church's bulletin or prayer requests for the children to use for intercession.

10. Battle Stations!

Angel Duties (10-15 minutes)

This Scripture study provides insight into some of the many roles God has given angels. Supplies: Bibles

We are going to look up some Bible verses to discover some of the roles God has given angels. Then we'll use this knowledge to write up "job descriptions" for angels.

- Psalm 91:11,12 (protect people)
- Psalm 148:2 (praise God)
- 1 Thessalonians 4:16 (archangel will accompany Christ)
- Daniel 10:8-11 (give strength)
- 1 Kings 19:5-8 (give nourishment)
- Daniel 9:21-23 (give interpretations, messenger)

In small groups, give children paper and let them write up job descriptions for angels. Allow time for each group to share their work with the group.

Global Warfare (10 minutes)

This prayer activity challenges children to engage in spiritual warfare by interceding for people and situations around the world. Supplies: world map, newspapers

Let the kids look through the newspapers and find an article they would like to use for intercession. Encourage students to pray for the people involved in the situation to see God's power at work and for the situation to bring glory to God. You may want to set out a world map and children could pick a country and pray for the people of that country to learn about Jesus and ask Him to be their Savior.

Late Excuses (10-15 minutes)

This creative thinking game generates discussion about reasons why someone might be late.

Have you arrived late to an important meeting or event? What happened? Let the children respond. **What are some of the excuses you have had for being late to something?** Give each student an opportunity to share an answer.

Let's play a game and see what kind of creative excuses you can think of to explain why someone might be late. We'll start with the letter "a" and continue through the alphabet. Have the group gather in a large circle and choose a child to give an excuse that starts with the letter "a" and then the next child should give an excuse that begins with "b." Continue going around the circle several times until the kids have gone completely through the alphabet. Examples: ate a coin and had to go to the hospital; broke my arm; caught a cold; didn't set my alarm; etc.

11. Things to Come

Christ's Ambassador Badge (10-15 minutes)

This craft reminds kids to be a world ambassador for Jesus.

Supplies: paper, sequins, glitter glue, safety pins; or foam craft sheets, pin closures, hot glue gun

What does it mean to be Christ's ambassador? Encourage responses. **How can you be an ambassador to the world this week?** Give kids an opportunity to share their ideas.

Set out the craft materials and let the students make a world ambassador badge. If using pin closures, set the hot glue gun in a safe location and use it carefully.

12. Kingdom Ambassadors

There are no additional activities for this lesson.