

Daniel 1

Thriving in Exile

Jan 3

Scripture focus: Captivity

Lesson focus: We are representing God in the world.

Vegetables – would you eat it?

Tech: PP of different vegetables.

Home – Away – Home again

I could say the Story faster than that video. Home – Away – Home again. Relate to This is the Story.

How many of you have ever spent the night away from home?

Is it different than being at your own house? How? (Different furniture, games, noise level, animals, people, rules... Sometimes good – think Grandma's house. Sometimes not good.

Have you ever had to eat something different than you get at your house? Who ate something yummy for the first time at someone else's house? (My example – kiwi and brussel sprouts) **Who had to eat something that they didn't like at someone else's house?** (Ex – David at friend's house.)

It was like that for someone that is in the Bible. Let's watch this video and see what happened.

Bible Video – Daniel the Captivity (Share Faith Video)

Tech: Daniel the Captivity

Daniel put in order

- Israel is attacked and many are taken as prisoners.
- King orders the best men are to serve him.
- Daniel and his friends are chosen to serve the king.
- Daniel won't eat the food served and asks to have only fruits and vegetables .
- For 10 days Daniel is served only fruits and vegetables.
- God blesses Daniel and his friends for their obedience.
- King chooses Daniel and his friends to be his wise men.

Have the kids put the Bible Story pictures in order.

As you reveal the answers bring out the main points.

What tough choice did Daniel have to make?

Sleepover – watch a show or movie that you know your parents wouldn't want you to watch.

What would you do? Hard choice.

Bible

Joshua 1:9

How did Daniel make that decision

Look in the Word – Daniel 1

- Daniel had a choice
- God gave a plan
- God gave him the courage to speak up
- God blessed Daniel's obedience – healthier, stronger, wiser

It all started with Daniel's decision: I am following God no matter what!
Daniel resolved to follow God no matter what BEFORE the situation came up.
Hmmm... what does that mean?

Discussion

If you could change your name, what would you want to be called? Daniel didn't get to choose his new name. He was just told this is his name. How do you think that made him feel?

Do you think it was hard for Daniel to speak up and refuse to eat the King's food? Why? So why did he refuse? Do you think all the Israel prisoners refused? Why not? Wouldn't it been easier to just follow everyone else? Why didn't Daniel and his friends?

So is God saying we should only eat fruits and vegetables? NO! God has made it clear that it is okay for us to eat whatever we want. But at this time there were very specific laws telling them what they could and could not eat. Daniel was obeying God and God blessed him for it.

Daniel decided he would follow God no matter what BEFORE the situation came up. What does that even mean?

End in prayer asking God to help us to want to follow Him. Thank Him for always being with us and helping us no matter where we are and no matter what situation we are in.