

Daniel | Lesson Plan

How did Daniel's faith and courage enable him to overcome challenges and uphold his beliefs in the face of adversity?

Students will understand how Daniel, from the Bible, faced many challenges after being taken captive in Babylon and serving as a royal advisor to several kings. Students will also understand how Daniel's unwavering faith and courage led to miraculous interventions. Students will understand how Daniel's story teaches lessons about faithfulness, courage in the face of adversity, and trust in God's protection.

Learning Objectives:

- Explain the factors that led to Daniel becoming a royal advisor under King Nebuchadnezzar.
- Explain why Daniel refused to eat the king's food and what happened as a result.
- Describe the events leading up to Daniel being thrown into the lion's den and how he survived.
- Analyze how Daniel's faith and trust in God guided his actions and helped him endure adversity.
- Evaluate Daniel's character and the qualities that helped him overcome significant challenges.

Key Vocabulary:

- **Courage:** The ability to face fear, danger, uncertainty, or challenges with confidence and bravery.
- **Royal advisor:** A trusted person who provides guidance and advice to a king or queen.
- **Captive:** Being forcibly taken as a prisoner or slave by a conquering force, usually from one's homeland or place of origin.
- **Faith:** A strong belief or trust in something or someone, often characterized by a firm commitment to one's beliefs.

Educational Standards: CCRA.L.1, CCRA.L.2, CCRA.L.4, CCRA.W.2, CCRA.W.4, CCRA.R.7, CCRA.SL.1, CCRA.SL.2, CCRA.SL.4

Academic Subject Areas: Biography, Bible, Judeo-Christian Values

What You'll Need

- Video: *Daniel: Faith Over Fear* (Watch [Here](#))
- Worksheet: *Daniel: Faith Over Fear* (Click [Here](#))

Lesson Plan (45 minutes)



Warm-Up: (15 minutes)

1. Initiate a class discussion on courage. Prompt students to share their own definitions of courage and provide an example of a time they or someone they know demonstrated courage.
2. Encourage students to reflect on tough situations or decisions where they stood up for their beliefs despite difficulty. Discuss how courage played a role in overcoming these challenges. Invite students to share examples aloud and brainstorm responses together.
3. Display a copy of the “Daniel Worksheet” and pass out individual worksheets to students.
4. Instruct students to complete the Warm-Up Activity. Students will write the meaning of courage and an example of how courage can help to overcome a challenge.
5. Transition into a brief discussion on why it's important to stand up for what you believe in. Ask students to share historical examples of famous individuals who showed bravery by standing up for their beliefs, even when unpopular.
6. Introduce Daniel from the Bible and his story:
 - The story of Daniel centers on his unwavering faith and devotion to God, even when faced with persecution. Despite being thrown into a den of lions for praying to God against the king's decree, Daniel is miraculously protected by an angel, demonstrating God's power and faithfulness.
7. Prompt students to share what they already know about Daniel. Ask students to consider how Daniel demonstrated courage and how his courage might have helped him to overcome challenges. Allow students to share their predictions with a partner or the whole class.
8. Read through the remainder of the worksheet as a class to ensure understanding and prepare students for the video.
9. Set the stage for the upcoming video by highlighting the theme of courage and faith. Encourage students to pay attention to how Daniel remains steadfast in his faith despite adversity and pressure to compromise.

Watch and Complete: (20 minutes)

1. Watch the video.
2. Assist students with completing the worksheet alongside the video, encouraging note-taking and active listening.
3. Pause throughout the video to allow students time to answer questions.

Wrap-Up: (10-15 minutes)

1. Allow students 10 minutes to complete the worksheet independently.
2. Collect as formative assessment or discuss in class.
3. Ask students to read aloud their responses to the Making Connections section, reflecting on what they learned from Daniel's story.
4. Conclude by prompting students to reflect on why it's important to stand firm in their beliefs and never compromise, even when faced with challenges. Remind students that, like Daniel, their faith and courage can empower them to overcome difficulties and make a positive impact.

Don't have time for the full lesson? Quick Activity (15-20 minutes)

Distribute the worksheet and allow students to complete it while they follow along with the video.