

Preparing a Christian Growth Bible Lesson

Contents of a Christian Growth Lesson

- Introduction
- Progression of Events
 - Truth application
 - Expanded application
 - Brief presentation of the message of salvation
- Climax
- Conclusion
 - Challenge and carryover activity

Developing the Main Teaching

The main teaching is the biblical truth which is the focus of the Bible passage. The main teaching should be stated in terms a child would understand.

- Brief and easy to remember
- Prefaced by a statement identifying the Christian child
 - [i.e. If you have believed on Jesus as your Savior . . .
 - (main teaching).]

Preparing the Applications

- Truth application (At the place where the dilemma or problem becomes evident in the story)
 - Y**—“You” Make your teaching personal
 - E**—Examples Times when the saved child might face this problem
 - S**—Scripture A verse that shows God’s view of this problem

- Expanded application (At the place where God intervenes in the story)
- Y**—“You” Make your teaching personal
- E**—Examples Practical ways the child can deal with this problem
- S**—Scripture A verse that will encourage the child

Developing a Challenge

- G**—Give Give the main teaching statement
- R**—Repeat Repeat the Scripture and examples given earlier
- O**—Obey Obey God’s Word—Challenge the will of the child—“Will you . . .”
- W**—Way Have a way to do it—Suggest a carryover activity

Including a Brief Presentation of the Message of Salvation

- Choose a place in the progression of events where it fits naturally.
- Keep it separate from the two applications for the Christian child
- Strengthen the message during the class hour

Presenting a Christian Growth Bible Lesson

Prepare the Lesson

- Do not memorize the lesson—Use your outline as a guide
- Do not just read the lesson

Gather All Visual Aids and Materials

- Always use your Bible
- Use visual aids

Practice Storytelling Techniques

- Use your voice effectively
- Use language appropriate for children
- Involve your audience in the lesson
- Practice

Practice Your Lesson Ahead of Time

- Practice out loud
- Practice using visual aids
- Practice! Practice! Practice!

Daniel in the Den of Lions

Scripture:	Daniel 6
Memory Verse:	1 Corinthians 15:58 “. . . be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, for as much as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.”
Teaching Objective:	The saved child will choose to remain steadfast and faithful to God even when he must stand alone.
Main Teaching:	God will help you be steadfast and faithful to Him.
Emphasis for Unsaved:	Call on the Lord Jesus to save you.

I. Introduction

Have you ever been tempted to stop doing what is right (reading your Bible, being honest, obeying your parents) because others who are not Christians pressured you? God wants you to be faithful, that is, to do right all the time—even when doing right may get you into trouble. Daniel determined to be faithful to God, no matter what happened.?

II. Progression of Events

- A. King Darius gave Daniel a high position for his outstanding work (6:1-3).
- B. The other leaders spied on Daniel, hoping to catch him doing wrong; instead they found him faithful in work and in worship of God (6:4).
- C. Frustrated, they plotted to use Daniel’s faithfulness against him (6:5-7).

These men were jealous of Daniel.



Jealousy is sin; it puts murder in your heart. You may never have been jealous, but the Bible says that you and I have sinned (Romans 3:23). Sin is anything you think, say, or do that does not please God (lying to your father, cheating on a test, quitting a game because you’re angry). God loves you even though you are a sinner. That is why He sent His Son Jesus to die on the cross to pay for your sins and to rise again. If you will ask Him to save you, He will give you eternal life and free you from sins like the jealousy that these leaders were feeling.



- D. Scheming leaders used flattery to trick the king into signing a decree which stated that all prayer should be addressed to the king (6:8-9).

E. Daniel chose to continue his daily worship in spite of the decree (6:10).



Knowing that it was God who enabled him to be faithful, Daniel chose to keep praying as he always had—even though it could mean death. **If you know the Lord Jesus as your Savior, God will help you to be steadfast and faithful to Him**, even if no one else is, just as He helped Daniel. Being steadfast means being determined in your heart and mind to please God and then faithfully doing it. As you pray at lunchtime, some may make fun of you, but others may notice and begin to think about God's goodness to them. When you share in class about your belief in God, some may argue with you, but someone may listen to what you say and change the way they think about God. As you faithfully go to church each Sunday, some in your family might think you are silly for going, but one day someone in your family might choose to go with you. Sometimes when you are faithful to God, others may not understand or may even oppose you, but God's Word says, (read 1 Corinthians 15:58a). Don't let pressure from others stop you from doing what is right. God will help you be faithful, just as Daniel was.

F. Daniel's enemies accused him before Darius (6:11-13).

G. The grieved king struggled unsuccessfully to excuse Daniel (6:14-15).

H. Darius reluctantly commanded that Daniel be thrown to the lions, encouraging Daniel to trust in his God (6:16-17).

I. As Daniel faced the lions, heartsick Darius could not sleep (6:18-19).



Darius could not help Daniel, but God could. God helped Daniel be faithful; now God would help him face the fearful things others were doing in anger. **If you know the Lord Jesus as your Savior, God will help you to be steadfast and faithful to Him**, no matter how others respond. As you pray at lunchtime, some may make fun of you, but others may notice and begin to think about God's goodness to them. When you share in class about your belief in God, some may argue with you, but someone may listen to what you say and change the way they think about God. As you faithfully go to church each Sunday, some in your family might choose to go with you and begin to learn about God, too. Even if no one ever responds kindly toward you, **God will help you to be steadfast and faithful to Him**. God even promises to reward your faithfulness in heaven (Revelation 2:10).

Daniel remained faithful to God even in his desperate situation.

III. Climax

God honored Daniel's faithfulness, protecting him from the lions! (6:20-22)

IV. Ending

A. Conclusion

1. Daniel was lifted from the den, totally unharmed (6:23).
2. The accusers reaped what they sowed: they were cast into the den and devoured by lions (6:24).
3. The king commanded everyone to worship God (6:25-27).
4. Daniel's faithfulness was rewarded; he continued as a leader, doing his best (6:28).

**B. Invitation****C. Challenge**

Sometimes, even if you are God's child, you may find it hard to be faithful. (Remind children of situations they have mentioned.) Remember 1 Corinthians 15:58, and thank God for His help. Will you this week **choose to remain steadfast and faithful to God**, even when you must stand alone? Perhaps God has reminded you of a situation in your life where you find it hard to be faithful to Him. As we pray together, talk to God about that situation, asking Him to help you in a special way this week. (Teacher: Give children each a four-by six-inch card and ask them to write down the situation they have asked God to help them with this week. Ask them to give you the card. Tell them you will pray for them, and they can report back to you next week. A telephone call of encouragement from you during the week will reinforce their commitment.)