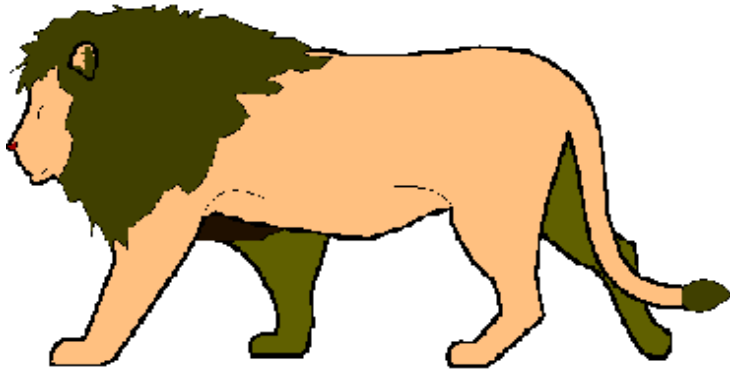


**Narrator:** Thank everyone who helped teach the children to pray faithfully.

**Questions.** If the children present this drama for the adults, let them ask the adults the questions that are listed above, about Daniel and his prayer.

**Ask the children:** “What are other times when we must pray faithfully? (Let the children cite examples.)

**Draw** or show a picture of a lion. Let the children copy it. They can show their pictures to the adults at the next worship time and explain that these illustrate how we should be faithful in prayer even if people hate us for it.



**Memorize 2** Thessalonians 3:2.

**Poem.** Let three children each recite one of the verses from Psalm 57:4, 5 & 6.

**Prayer.** “Lord, you are powerful. You can shut the mouths of lions. We will always trust you. We will always pray to you, even when it is hard. Even if bad things happen to us, you will save us from eternal death. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

## God Heard Prayer and Shut the Lions’ Mouths

**Prayer.** “Dear Father, please use this study to teach the children to pray faithfully.”

**Choose** any of the learning activities that fit the children’s ages and current needs.

**Daniel and the Lions.** A teacher or older child should read or recount by memory, the story in Daniel 6. It tells how God answered Daniel’s prayer and saved him from being eaten by lions.



Ask these **questions:** *[Answers appear after each question.]*

1. Why were the king’s officials jealous of Daniel? *[See verse 3]*
2. Why did the king’s officials want the king to make a new law about prayer? *[verse 5]*
3. What did Daniel do, when he heard about the king’s new law? *[verse 10]*

4. What did the king do the night that Daniel was in the den of lions? *[verse 18]*
5. How was Daniel saved from the lions? *[verse 22]*
6. What new law did the king make after Daniel was saved from the lions? *[verse 26]*

**Dramatise** parts of the story from Daniel 6.

**Arrange** with the leaders of the flock to present this drama during worship. Prepare the children well.

**Older children or adults** play these parts:

**Narrator.** Summarize the story. Help the children to recall what to say and do.

**King.** Have a paper called “the King’s ruling”.

**Daniel**

**Younger children** play these parts:

**King’s Officials.** Hold a paper having the King’s ruling.

**Lions.** Walk on hands and knees and growl.

**Angel.** Holds a cloth.

**Soldiers.**

**Narrator:** Tell the first part of the story from verses 1-10. Then say, “Hear what the king’s officials say.”

**King’s Officials:** Say loudly, “The king makes Daniel more important than we are!”

“Let us get rid of him. Of what can we accuse him?”

“He does nothing wrong!”

“Let the king rule against praying to Daniel’s God!”

**King:** Hand the officials the paper. “Alright. Here is the new law you want. Everyone must pray only to me.”

**Daniel:** Stand on a chair and pretend to open a window; bow and say, “God, I will pray only to you and will praise you every day.”

**Narrator:** Tell the second part of the story from verses 11-18. Say, “Hear what the king’s officials say.”

**King’s Officials:** “Oh, king, Daniel still prays to his God.” “You must throw him into the den of lions.”

**King:** “Oh, no! I do not want to do that, but it is the law. Throw him to the lions and put a stone over the entrance. Oh, I am so sad. I will not eat or sleep all night!”

**Soldiers:** Gently throw Daniel to the lions.

**Lions:** Growl.

**Narrator:** Tell the third part of story from verses 19-22. Say, “Hear what the angel says.”

**Angel:** Cover the mouth of a lion with the cloth. Say, “Lions, do not hurt Daniel”.

**Lions:** Walk around Daniel and then lie down and sleep.

**King:** “Finally it is morning!” (Walk to where the lions are.) “Daniel, are you alive? Did your God save you?”

**Daniel:** “Yes. An angel shut the mouths of the lions.”

**Narrator:** Tell the fourth part of the story from verses 23-28. Say, “Hear what the king says.”

**King:** “I am so happy! Guards! Go get those evil officials! Throw them to the lions! Now, we shall all worship Daniel’s God.”

**Soldiers:** Throw the officials down among the lions.

**Lions:** Growl and attack the officials.