

The Case of the Man with the Big Teeth

Daniel 6



Story-telling Tips

Ahead of time:

1. Read the Bible verses and story. Pray!
2. Choose story action cues and/or prepare storyboard pictures, if using. (Included in Visual Aids book)
3. Practice telling story with the pictures, timing your presentation. Shorten, if necessary to fit your allotted time.

During your presentation:

1. Maintain as much eye contact as possible as you tell the story.
2. Put up storyboard figures/add story action cues as you tell the story. Allow the children to help you put them on the board, if desired.
3. Include the children in your story with a few questions about what they think will happen or words/concepts that might be new to them.
4. Watch the kids for signs that their attention span has been reached. Shorten, if necessary.

INTRODUCTION/ LISTENING ASSIGNMENTS

“Our story is called: The Case of the Man with the Big Teeth. Here is your listening assignment... ”

Read from Detective Dan’s Listening Assignment signs, but questions are summarized below:

Detective Dan’s Lesson #1 Listening Assignment:

I need to find out:

1. Who had big teeth and who was the man who was with them?
2. Who did the man ask for help and did He help him?

Detective Dan’s Lesson #2 Listening Assignment:

Our Bible verse is Philippians 4:5,6: “The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.”

As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:

1. To be anxious is to be worried and afraid. Who could have been very anxious in our story?
2. What did he do instead of being anxious? What did the LORD do for him?

Detective Dan’s Lesson #3 Listening Assignment:

I found four clues, but one of them is NOT in the story.

They are: A king, a lion, a pizza and an angel.

Hold up each of the four pictures for the children to see as you identify them. Better yet, put them up on your flannelgraph board, off to one side.

I need to know:

1. Which of these things was not in our story today?
2. How were the other three things important in our story?

Detective Dan’s Lesson #4 Listening Assignment:

As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:

1. Who loved to pray to the LORD every night and day?
2. What did he praise the LORD for being?

Detective Dan’s Lesson #5 Listening Assignment:

As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:

1. Who needed rescuing from big teeth? Who rescued him?
2. All people need to be rescued from their sins. Who can rescue us?

Read the questions, THEN SAY,

“Ok, Hide ‘n’ Seekers! Put on your best listening ears and see if you can hear the answers to Detective Dan’s questions. When I finish telling the story, we will see if we can answer all the questions.”

"The Case of the Man with the Big Teeth" Daniel 6

Story with lines separating paragraphs (text in bold, optional interaction cues in italics) Numbers correspond to storyboard pictures and placement upon the storyboard. Always feel free to use less pictures, if it's best for your kids. Simply, black out the numbers next to pictures you do not plan to use. All pictures are found in the Visual Aids book. Put BG (background) pictures on storyboard ahead of time. SB pictures (listed below in story text) are added to board as you tell the story. These numbers are also found on the back of each picture.

Tip: Stack pictures in numerical order before telling story for easy use. Use sticky-back velcro to attach pictures to storyboard felt. Use sticky-tac putty to stick a picture on top of another picture.

(SB1) Daniel loved the LORD. He loved to live for Him and talk to Him. He would go to the big Temple in Jerusalem and pray to Him every day.

What did he pray? He prayed things like this:

"Oh, LORD, You are the one true God, I praise You!" *Can you stretch your hands up to praise God?*

"Oh, LORD, You are so good to Your people! I thank You!" *Can you clap your hands to thank God?*

"Oh, LORD, you are God, help me this day!" *Can you put your hands together to ask God for help?*

Yes, Daniel was a man who loved the LORD. He was a man who prayed every night and day.

But one day, (SB2) enemies came and (SB3) broke down Jerusalem and its beautiful Temple. They took (SB4) Daniel and many other people to their country-- a land called Babylon. They made them (SB5) work hard for them.

(SB6) Now, the people in Babylon didn't (SB7) worship the LORD. They worshipped (SB8) other gods. Why, some even worshipped (SB9) the king! What would (SB10) Daniel do? He was far from his home in Jerusalem where people prayed to the LORD and worshipped Him. Would he stop worshipping the LORD? Would he worship the gods of Babylon or even the king of Babylon instead?

No, Daniel would not! He would work hard for the king, but he would keep on (SB11) loving the LORD. He would live for Him and he would pray to Him... every night and day...even in Babylon.

Daniel was given a job working for the (SB12) king, himself. Daniel worked so hard for the king that he became the king's (SB13) best worker. The king liked him most of all, and this made the (SB14) king's other workers mad! They were so jealous of Daniel that they planned a tricky trick to get rid of him.

Show me your mad faces! That's how those other workers felt about Daniel.

"Daniel is a good worker and the king knows it. We can't get him in trouble for that," the workers said to each other. "But, ah ha! (SB15) Daniel prays every night and day to the LORD, that God of his. Let's get him in trouble for that!" they planned.

And that's just what they did! They tricked the king into making (SB16) a bad rule that everyone was to worship only the king as god. Whoever worshipped anyone other than the king would be thrown to hungry lions to be eaten up! Yikes!

Can you roar like a hungry lion?

The workers watched and waited to see what Daniel would do. Would he keep praying to the LORD? Would they catch him with their tricky trick? Or would he worship the king?

What do you think Daniel did? Would the bad rule and those hungry lions stop him from praying to the LORD?

Daniel would NOT worship the king! The king was just a man--he was not God! Daniel would keep on loving the LORD, and living for the LORD, and praying to the LORD...every night and day!

Story with lines separating paragraphs (text in bold, optional interaction cues in italics)

The workers watched as Daniel (SB17) went to his window to pray the LORD. The bad rule and the hungry lions hadn't stopped Daniel from praying! This was their chance to get rid of him! They were happy!

They went to Daniel's room and (SB18) snatched him away. "Off to the hungry lions with you!" they told Daniel. "Now we will be rid of Daniel, once and for all!" they said to each other.

(SB19) Daniel was thrown into a big, dark hole, full of snarling lions with hungry, grumbly tummies.

(SB20) "Roar! Roar! Grumble! Grumble! We need something good to eat!" the lions were thinking in their big, dark hole. "Let's gobble up this man! Yum, yum, yummy in our tummies!"

Can you roar like a hungry, hungry lion?

What would happen to Daniel? Would those lions eat him up? It seemed like they would... but, Daniel did what he always did. (SB21) He went on loving the LORD and living for Him.

And right there in the middle of those snarly lions...with their hungry, grumbly tummies... and their wide-open mouths...with big, sharp teeth, (SB22) Daniel prayed. He knew the LORD was the one, true God. He could take care of him, even there.

And what did Daniel pray? He prayed things like this:

"Oh, LORD, You are the one true God, I praise You!" *Can you stretch your hands up to praise God?*

"Oh, LORD, You are so good to Your people! I thank You!" *Can you clap your hands to thank God?*

"Oh, LORD, you are God, help me this day!" *Can you put your hands together to ask God for help?*

Daniel knew the LORD could help him, even when no one else could! And so, he prayed!

The next morning, the (SB23) king went to the hole. He hoped Daniel wasn't dead. He (remove BG4) opened the top of the hole to check on him, and what did he see? Was Daniel alive? Had the LORD, his God helped him?

What do you think the king saw? Did God answer Daniel's prayers? Did He help Daniel?

Yes, God had helped Daniel! Hurray! Hurray! Daniel was alive!

Let's cheer really loud! Yay!

God had answered Daniel's prayers. He had sent (SB24) an angel to (SB25A,B,C,D) shut the mouths of those snarly lions with hungry, grumbly tummies. Daniel would not be their breakfast, lunch or dinner! No, he would NOT!

The king was so happy! He had men lift Daniel out of that hole and together (SB26) they praised the LORD.

Then (SB27) the king got rid of all those bad workers. He (SB28) got rid of his bad rule, too. He made a new one instead: "Everyone, worship the LORD, not me!" the king proclaimed. "For who is God like Him! He rescued Daniel from the mouths of hungry lions! He alone should be worshipped! He is the One, True God!"

Cracking the Case (story wrap-up for Listening Assignments)

It's time to see how we did with our Listening Assignment.

Detective Dan's Lesson #1 Listening Assignment:

1. Who had big teeth and who was the man who was with them? Lions. Daniel.

2. Who did the man ask for help and did He help him? The LORD. Daniel asked the LORD for help and answered Daniel's prayers. He even sent an angel to close the lions' mouths.

For You and Me:

Daniel knew the LORD was the one, true God. He knew the LORD could always help him. Nothing was too hard for Him! The LORD is still the one, true God. He still always hears and helps His people. We can be His people, too, when we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Detective Dan's Lesson #2 Listening Assignment:

Our Bible verse is Philippians 4:5,6: "The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."

As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:

1. To be anxious is to be worried and afraid. Who could have been very anxious in our story? Daniel.

2. What did he do instead of being anxious? What did the LORD do for him? Daniel prayed to the LORD. He praised the LORD and thanked Him and asked Him to help him. God answered Daniel's prayers. He saved Daniel. He even sent an angel to close the lions' mouths. Nothing is too hard for the LORD!

For You and Me:

Just like Daniel, we can pray to the LORD about everything. He is the one, true God. There is no other God, but Him! The LORD helped Daniel to keep on praying to Him, no matter what! He can help us to keep on praying to Him, too. He loves to help us. Just ask Him!

Detective Dan's Lesson #3 Listening Assignment:

I found four clues, but one of them is NOT in the story. They are: a king, a lion, a pizza and an angel.

I need to know:

1. Which of these things was not in our story today? A pizza.

2. How were the other three things important in our story? The king listened to his bad helpers and made a law saying no one should pray to anyone but the king. If they broke the law, they would be thrown to the lions. Daniel refused to obey the bad law. He kept on praying to the LORD and was thrown to the lions. But Daniel prayed to the LORD and He sent an angel to shut the lions' mouths and rescued Daniel.

For You and Me:

We might not need to be rescued from the big teeth of big, hungry lions, but we still need the LORD's help each day. He wants us to pray to Him, every night and day. He wants us to keep on talking to Him and asking Him for His help. He loves to hear our prayers!

Detective Dan's Lesson #4 Listening Assignment:

1. Who loved to pray to the LORD every night and day? Daniel.

2. What did he praise the LORD for being? The one, true God.

For You and Me:

Daniel loved to pray to the LORD. There was no one Daniel loved more and wanted to serve more than Him. And how the LORD loved Daniel, too! The LORD loves to hear our prayers, too. He wants us to love Him and serve Him, too. He wants to love us and even save us through Jesus. He wants us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Detective Dan's Lesson #5 Listening Assignment:

1. Who needed rescuing from big teeth? Who rescued him? Daniel. The LORD did.

2. What do all people need rescuing from? Who can rescue us? We all need to be rescued from sin and death. The LORD can rescue us through Jesus, when we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

For You and Me:

We can know the LORD and live for Him, like Daniel did. We can become His dearly loved people, too. How? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior!

The Gospel (story wrap-up if NOT using Listening Assignments)

Our Bible Truth is:

**How Does God Want Us to Pray?
Every Night and Day!**

Daniel was a man who loved God and prayed to Him every night and day... and God heard him and answered him!

God wants us to love Him and pray to Him, too. We can pray to God about everything, but there is something He especially wants us to pray about. He wants us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. This is how we can become God's people!

Close in prayer.

Closing Unit 14 ACTS Prayer

A=Adoration C=Confession T=Thanksgiving S=Supplication

- A** We praise You, God, for being the One, True God who delights to hear our prayers.
- C** God, we confess that like even though You love to hear our prayers, too many times we do not take time to talk with You. We forget You or think we don't really need You. Please forgive us.
- T** Thank You, God, for always hearing our prayers and never getting tired of listening. Thank You for caring about us so much. Every day, we see so many ways You answer our prayers.
- S** God, work in our hearts. Help us to turn away from disobeying You. Help us to trust in Jesus to save us from our sins. Help us to pray to You as we go through our day. Help us to know You are near and love to hear us when we talk to You. Help us to live out Your good rules for our lives.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

***Return to page 7 of the Lesson Plan
for the script of the rest of this lesson.***