

**Generation Next Sunday Service Teaching- 28<sup>th</sup> April. 2013 by David A. Adeyeye, Esq**

Topic: **Reputation of Faith: Daniel 6:6-24**

**Key Activities:**

- Praise & Worship
- Prayer & Prayer Request
- Bible reading & lessons
- Memory Verse for the week: *Ephesians 2:8* "***For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith -- and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.***"

**INTRO:** Last week we learnt how King Belshazzar's pride brought destruction to him and his kingdom, and how Daniel interpreted the handwriting on the wall for King Belshazzar.

Today we are going to focus on the next part of the story. After King Belshazzar's death, Darius became the king. He displayed a great deal of respect and favor for Daniel; in fact, he wanted Daniel to rule the entire kingdom. Naturally, many of the king's subjects were upset by the favor Daniel received. Moreover, many people in the kingdom were already jealous of Daniel because of his high position within the kingdom as he was only a captive from Judah.

The combination of his status within the kingdom and his status as a captive was too much. Therefore, the people of King Darius' kingdom developed a clever plan to get rid of Daniel once and for all.

**BIBLE Reading: Daniel 6:6-24.** Let's find out what happened. (Class) follow along in the reading of Bible passages, each time I (teacher) come to the words "Daniel" (Class) say these words with the teacher out loud

**Class Reflection:**

1. How did the evil men know that Daniel would not give up praying to God? (*Because of Daniel's reputation for being faithful to God.*)
2. Did the king want to throw Daniel in the den of lions? (*No.*)
3. Then why did he? (*He was bound by a written decree.*)
4. How did Daniel show he had faith in God after he heard the decree? (*He went home and prayed anyway.*)
5. Daniel said he was saved because he was found innocent in God's eyes, innocent of what? (*Being disobedient, not being faithful to God, etc.*)
6. What are some situations in your life where having faith in God helps? (*Allow for answers.*)

**Fun Activities:** 1) TBD

Sunday School Take Home Page-***To parents:*** This page lets you know what your child learned in GenerationNext today. In addition, you will find this week's memory verse, a suggested activity, and a short prayer to reinforce the lesson.

### **What we learned:**



In today's lesson we learned that Daniel was one of the many great men of faith. Although he knew that disobeying a decree meant death, he would not give up his faith, even for his own life. Having faith in God means to allow Him to control our lives. If we faithfully obey and give Him our praise, He will give us the courage to do whatever He wants us to do, or go wherever He wants us to go. (Scripture used: Daniel 6:6-24)

### **Memory Verse:**



"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God." Ephesians 2:8 KJV

Memorize this verse with your child. Discuss what it means to be saved by grace through faith, which is a gift from God.

### **Suggested Parent/Child Activity:**



Discuss some of the many things in which we put our faith or trust in, on a daily basis. Some examples would include:

- 1) We have faith that the chair will not collapse when we sit on it.
- 2) We have faith that the brakes will work on our bike or car.
- 3) We have faith that the traffic lights are working properly.
- 4) We have faith that the bridge will not collapse when we drive over the river.

Read Hebrews chapter 11 with your child. Discuss the importance of putting our trust in God and putting our faith into action.



Dear God Almighty, maker of Heaven and earth, let us reflect upon the ways You have helped your people in the past, as You have shown us through out Your Word, the Bible. Please give us wisdom to trust You in this way today and put our faith in action as those who have come before us have done. Help us be strong people of faith as we place our complete trust in You. We praside You and thank You for your goodness and mercy. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## **Unseen Faith**

*This object talk demonstrates how faith in our Lord can help us from being crushed by fear.*

### **Materials:**

2 plastic water bottles  
Old glove



### **Topics:**

Courage, Faith, Power,  
Protection, Stand Firm,  
Trials,  
Trust

### **Duration:**

Approximately 5 minutes

### **Target Audience:**

Grades 1-6 (Ages 6-12)

### **Preparation:**

Before class, take an old glove and draw or glue the following letters on the knuckles: F - E - A - R.

### **What you will do:**

You will take two empty plastic water bottles, and tightly cap one of them. Do not cap the other bottle. During class, you will put on the glove and form a fist to show the word fear. Then you will hit both bottles. The uncapped bottle will crush, but the one that has the cap on tight will not crush. You will compare the uncapped bottle to a person without faith, and the capped bottle to a person who has faith. Although faith itself is not visible, what faith produces is easy to see.

### **What you will say:**

Today I want to demonstrate how we can see faith. Here I have two empty plastic bottles. They look the same, but there is a difference. This one with a cap is full of faith. You cannot see it now, but it is there. The other bottle does not have faith—it is empty.

(Put on the glove showing the word fear.) What do you think will happen to this bottle without faith when fear comes along? (Allow for answers, and then smash the bottle with your fist.) See, fear was able to crush it.

What about this bottle filled with faith? (Hit the capped bottle.) Look, fear could not crush it. In fact, it does not even look hurt. With faith, we get strength from God. Jesus once said to His disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?" (Mark 4:40) We cannot see faith itself, but what faith produces we can see quite easily, such as strength, courage, peace of mind, and self-control. We do not need to worry or be afraid of anything when we have faith in Jesus.

