



Future-proofing our children

Religious Instruction Class 1

Lesson Title	Devoutness – Daniel
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A Parent's Guide

Sunday School Home Schooling



Dear Parent

Welcome to the “**Devoutness – Daniel**” Religious Instruction 1 lesson.

This document provides you with a minimum guide on how to present the lesson.

How to prepare and present the lesson

Below are some tips on how to go about preparing and presenting the lesson:

Step	Action
1.	Access the New Apostolic Church Website by keying-in or clicking on the following link from WhatsApp: https://bit.ly/3NACSSHS
2.	<p>Gather the following tools to ensure that you are ready for the lesson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bible• The PDF lesson that is already prepared• Child’s workbook and pencils, crayons, etc.• The Video Clip which is an additional optional resource tool <p>Note:</p> <p>2.1: An ideal time preferably to present the lesson is after the Sunday morning service in line with the normal Sunday School time to maintain the routine.</p> <p>2.2: Please keep the lesson as concise as possible, bearing in mind the retention span (to focus on the lesson) of our children – you know your child best. Sunday School normally does not exceed 45 minutes.</p> <p>2.3: The lessons are class specific (i.e. SS, RI, or Confirmation).</p> <p>2.4: Please contact your SS teacher if you need any of the above resources.</p>
3.	Pray (see the prayer at the end of this document) and ask God to use you as a tool to present the lesson the way He would want us to present it.



Present a Sunday School Lesson at Home

How to prepare and present the lesson

We continue to share some tips on how to go about preparing and presenting the lesson:

Step	Action
4.	Create a pleasant (disturbance free) learning environment where you and the children are at the same level Example: Sit on the mat or at a table
5.	Read through the lesson. Re-read the lesson so that you understand it. Watch the video clip of the lesson to get a better understanding of the lesson.
6.	Make notes for yourself on important points that you would like to remember.
7.	Understand the objective of the lesson that your child must remember.
8.	Present the lesson to your child by telling the story. You can even read the story if you like.
9.	Show your child the video and recap on the meaning/purpose of the lesson.
10.	Refer your child to the activity in the child's workbook.
11.	Pray, or ask your child to pray and close the lesson.

Available tools in terms of Home Schooling

Herewith some tools to enhance the quality of the lesson:

1. WhatsApp chat the lesson with another Religious Instruction family.
2. Discuss with other parents to obtain clarity regarding the lesson before it is presented.
3. Feel free to conduct your own research for additional information.
4. Your congregation's Sunday School Coordinator and Teacher is on stand-by to help.



The Lesson

Lesson Title	Devoutness – Daniel
Text	Daniel 1, 2, 5 and 6
Lesson Objective	The children find out what devoutness is and how God blesses those who are devout.

Lesson Summary:

- King Nebuchadnezzar captured Jerusalem and took many captives to Babylon. Daniel was from a royal family and was among them.
- He and several other young Israelites were chosen to be educated so that they could be qualified to serve the king in the royal court.
- During this time the king decided that the young men should have the same food and drink as he.
- At each meal the Babylonians offered some of the food and drink to the idols they worshipped.
- Daniel did not want to eat any of this food because he obeyed only God's commandments.
- He and his three friends only had vegetables and water and at the end looked healthier than all the others.
- When their education was completed three years later, King Nebuchadnezzar selected Daniel and his friends to serve at his court because no one equalled them.
- King Nebuchadnezzar had a dream which frightened him, but he was unable to remember what he had dreamt.
- He called all the wise men, astrologers, and magicians together, commanding them to tell him the dream and interpret it.
- They could not and this made the king so furious that he wanted them all killed, including Daniel and his friends.
- Daniel asked the king for some more time and together with his friends he prayed to God for help.
- God answered his prayer and the dream was revealed to Daniel.
- He thanked and praised God.
- The king recognized Daniel's God as the God of all gods and the Lord of all kings.
- The Persians had taken over the Babylonian and the Persian King, Darius wanted to set Daniel as ruler over the entire kingdom.



- This made the other governors and rulers jealous and they decided to accuse Daniel before the king.
- They knew that Daniel prayed to God three times daily.
- They made the king give the order that everyone who would petition any God or man, other than the king during the next 30 days was to be thrown into the lions' den.
- Despite this, Daniel remained faithful to God and trusted Him fully. He continued to pray three times a day.
- The king had no choice, but to have Daniel thrown into the lion's den.
- God sent an angel who had held the lions' jaws shut.
- The miracle of Daniel's rescue was proclaimed to all.
- The king gave instructions that Daniel's eternal, living God was to be feared.

What does this lesson teach us?

We should remain faithful and upright.	We should live in peace with everyone.
We must obey God's commandments.	In our prayers we should tell God everything that moves us and then trust in His help.
We should trust God in all situations of life.	We should forgive those who have dealt unjustly with us.
When we fulfill this, God will bless us richly. We should trust and obey God, pray to Him with belief, and what seems impossible, He will make possible. Let us dare to be a Daniel.	

Do Exercise 1, 2 and 3 with your child/ren.

Answer to Exercise 3:

Board:

Daniel was devout because he

- Obeyed God's commandments, and
- Led a God-pleasing life



Some questions we can ask:

1. What can we learn from Daniel?

Answer: *We want to be devout to God, obeying his commandments*

2. What are the names of Daniel's friends?

Answer: *Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego*

3. Why didn't the lions tear Daniel apart?

Answer: *God sent His angel to shut the lion's mouth's*

4. Why didn't Daniel want to eat the king's food?

Answer: *He wanted to remain faithful to God.*

A Prayer for Daddy and Mommy to pray before the lesson:

Dear God, thank you for this day

Bless all parents and children

May we feel your presence

Bless the lesson we will have

Please teach us how to serve you

And help us to do your will

So that we grow closer to you

Send Jesus to fetch us

And may we be ready to meet Him

Amen

A prayer after the lesson:

Dear Heavenly Father,

Thank you for another lesson

Help us to be like Daniel

To keep your commandments

And lead a God-pleasing life

Thank you for being the Good Shepherd who loves and guides us.

Amen