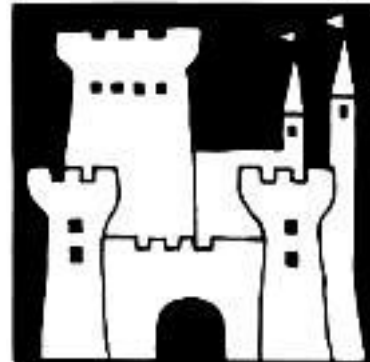


Year 2

God is Protector 3 Weeks



Outcomes

At the completion of this module students will understand that:

- We can trust in God to keep us safe physically and spiritually
- Although there are times when Christians face tragedy and calamity, the times when God rescues us from danger and calamity are too many to count.
- God tells us to trust in Him at all times. When we do trust and obey him, he shows us the right path to travel on, and shows us the paths that are not for us to take.

Related classroom topics for Science, Social Studies and Health:

Animal protective mechanisms; how animals protect themselves

Link between “God is Protector” and classroom topics:

Students can look to the creation and see how God has created animals with self-protective mechanisms and design features such as camouflage.

Values:

Responsibility; Safety and security; Peace; Faith; Trust; Obedience to truth

God is Protector

Week 1

Don't be afraid to obey God.

God helps us in times of trouble.

Bible references

Daniel 3 Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego

Psalm 37:39-40 The Lord protects the righteous in times of trouble.

Psalm 91 God will put His angels in charge of you to protect you wherever you go. (GNB)

Introduction

Think of times when it might be difficult to obey God.

EXAMPLE:

Your friends are doing something you know is wrong. They want you to join in. If you don't, they will tease you.

Bible Lesson: The Fiery Furnace

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were friends of Daniel. Tell the story of their protection in the fiery furnace or read the following:

There was a time when God's people, the Israelites, were ruled by the king of Babylon. One day the king set up a huge gold statue. He told everyone that they must bow down and worship whenever special music was played.

He said, "If you don't bow down when the music plays then you will be thrown into a big fire."

There were three men, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who worshiped the true God and knew that they must never bow down to a statue. They heard the music but they did not bow down. Someone told the king.

The king called Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and said that they must bow down and worship the statue.

The three men said, "We will never worship a statue."

The king was very angry and told his servants to make a very hot fire. They threw Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego into the fire.

But suddenly there were four men in the fire. They were all walking around in the fire and not burning up.

"Come out," called the king.

The king could see that the three men were not burned. Their clothes did not even smell like smoke.

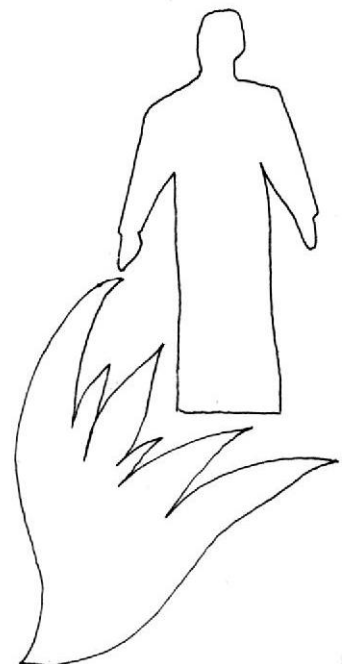
The king knew that the true God had saved them. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego knew that the fourth man in the fire was the son of God, protecting them.

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego only worshipped the true God. They would not bow down to statues, even though they knew they would be punished. They would only obey God. God was watching over the three men. He knew that these men loved and obeyed Him. He protected them in the fire. Jesus was with them to keep them from harm. Even though they were in the middle of the flames, they were not hurt.



Art/Craft: Paper collage

1. Prepare background: Cut out flames from orange, red and yellow paper. Stick the flames on to the background sheet.
2. Prepare cut-out figures as shown and stick on to the background.
3. Add captions.



God is Protector

Week 2

God keeps us safe.

God is our Father who protects those who love and obey Him.

Bible references

Daniel 6 Only God could save Daniel from the lions.

Psalm 4:8; Psalm 23 God will keep me safe.

Psalm 46 God is with us.

Bible Lesson: Daniel in the lion's den

Daniel was a friend of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. He loved God too. God blessed Daniel and made him very wise. Daniel helped the king with his wisdom, and the king wanted to make Daniel a ruler. But the other wise men in the land were jealous and wanted to find something about Daniel that the king would not like. But Daniel was a good man and it was hard for them to find anything bad about him. So they made a plan.

They went to the king and said, "Let's make a new law. Let's make a law that says everyone must bow down and pray to you. If they don't we'll throw them into the den of lions."

Now the king liked the idea of everyone bowing down to him, so he made the new law. When Daniel heard about the law he would not bow down to the king. He knelt down and prayed to the true God instead.

The wicked men knew that Daniel would do this. They saw him praying one day and told the king.

"We will have to throw Daniel to the lions," they said.

The king was very sorry because he liked Daniel. But he had made the law and could not change it.

That night Daniel was thrown into the lion's den.

The king got up early the next morning and ran to the lion's den. He hoped that Daniel's God had saved him.

"Daniel, are you still alive?" he called.

"Yes," said Daniel. "God sent an angel to close the mouths of the lions. The lions did not hurt me."

Discussion

How do we know that Daniel loved God?

How do we know that Daniel obeyed God?

Do you think that Daniel would have been afraid?

Do you think Daniel would have asked God to help him?

How did God take special care of Daniel?

What are some of the things you have been afraid of?

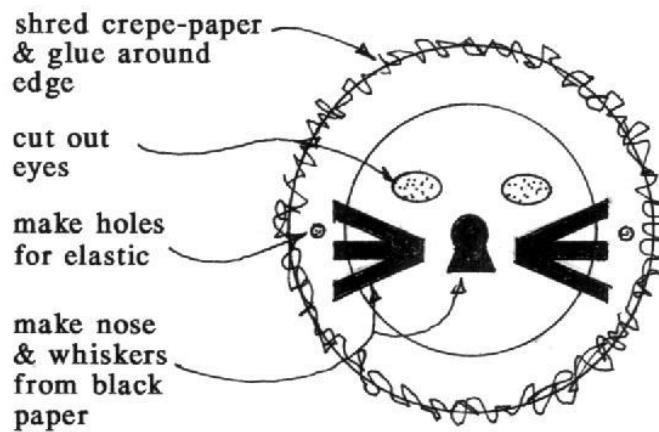
What should we do when we are afraid?



Art/Craft

Make some props to be used in dramatising the story.

1. Lion masks from paper plates.
2. A king's crown.
3. A scroll containing the king's orders: 'Everyone must bow down to me.'



God is Protector

Week 3

God helps us when we are afraid.

Do not be afraid.

Bible references

Luke 8:23 –27 Jesus protected His disciples in the storm.

Psalm 27:1 The Lord protects me from all danger. I will never be afraid. (GNB)

Discussion/activity

Think about times when you have been afraid. What should we do when we are afraid?

Draw a picture to show a time when God has protected you.

Write a sentence about your drawing. (*See activity sheet 11*)

Bible Lesson: Jesus calms the storm

Jesus had twelve special friends. Some of them were in a boat with Jesus.

Then a big storm came. There was lots of rain. There was lots of wind.

The boat went up and down.

"Help us! Help us!" said the friends.

"Do not worry," said Jesus. "I will help you. I will look after you."

Jesus stood up in the boat.

"Peace," he said.

The rain stopped. The wind stopped. The boat did not go up and down. They were safe.

"How can Jesus stop a storm?" said the friends. "He must be very special."

Did you know that Jesus is God's Son? He can look after you.

Discussion

Why were the disciples in danger? What could have happened?

Would you have been afraid?

What did Jesus say to the disciples when they were afraid?

What would you do if you felt that you were in danger?

Act it out

Divide into two groups. One group can create the sound effects of the storm.

EXAMPLES:

Use mouth sounds for wind; pat knees rapidly for rain; crash saucepan lids or use wooden spoon on baking dish for thunder.

The second group huddle together on the floor as if they are in a small boat.
What do you do as the water starts to pour into the boat? (bail out the water)
What do you need to do to the sails? (*pull on the rigging*)
What about the anchor? (*throw it over the side*)

Someone wakes Jesus who is sleeping in the boat. Jesus stands and tells the storm to be still.
All is quiet.

Activity

Divide up the events of the story.

Give each child a piece of paper.

Ask children to choose one event in the story and illustrate it.

Put the pages together in sequence to make a book.

Teacher can add captions to make a class reading book.

