

Writing on the Wall

Daniel
Lesson 2

Lesson Objectives

- The children will identify King Belshazzar as one who did not obey God.
- The children will describe a way that they can make God happy with their bodies.
- The children will name a friend that they will influence in a good way this week.

Lesson Text

Daniel 5

Scripture Memory Verse

Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God.

Daniel 6:10

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Friends-1

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Bible Story: Mene, Mene

Life Application: Influencing Others

Craft: Friends-2

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.



Pre class



Writing on the Wall

Friends-1

The children will prepare materials for the craft center by decorating paper friends and cutting out pictures.

Materials

For each child:

- crayons
- 1 envelope
- scissors

For the teacher:

- scissors
- construction paper
- yarn (for hair)

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Cut out the friend stencil from the copy of Reproducible Page A.
2. Trace and cut out three friends for each child from construction paper.

Instructions

1. Give each child three paper friends.
2. Discuss with each child the name of some of their real friends. Ask each child how they serve, care for, and help their friends.
3. Help them write the name of a friend on each doll.
4. Have the children decorate the dolls by adding hair, faces, and clothes.
5. Have each child put their paper friends in an envelope and put their name on it.

Conclusion

Remind the children that we help people know about God's love by loving them.

Teacher Tips

- Some of the children may finish early. If so, ask them to make some extra friends for those children that come late.



Writing on the Wall

Mene, Mene

The children will hear the story of God writing a message on a wall to King Belshazzar.

Lesson Text

Daniel 5

Materials

For each child:

- 1 paper party hat

For the teacher:

- 4 paper cups
- aluminum foil
- gold colored paper or foil
- a sheet
- a belt

Preparation

1. Wrap two paper cups with tin foil.
2. Wrap two paper cups with gold paper.
3. Before class, dress like Daniel. Drape the sheet over your shoulder and place the belt around your waist to hold it in place.

Tekel, Parsin

Hello boys and girls. My name is Daniel, and I have a true story to tell you today about something that happened to me. This story is about a king, named Belshazzar. God blessed King Belshazzar. He gave Belshazzar many beautiful things.

The king was very happy, and decided to throw a big party for all of his friends. Put a party hat on each child in the group. Everybody was having a great time at the party, but then the king began to do some things that he should not have done. He took gold and silver cups from the temple of God, that were only to be used in the temple, and let everyone drink from them. Place silver and gold cups in front of four children.

The king and all of his friends started talking about how great the gold and silver were. They even started saying how great wood and stones were. They praised the wood, stones, gold, and silver. They thought they were very important. They did not think about

God at all. They did not even pray and thank God before they ate and drank.

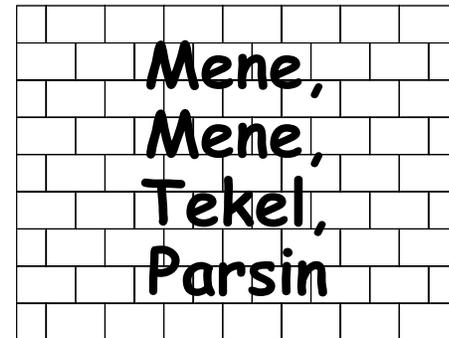
God was sad about what the king and his friends had been saying so he did something to get the king's attention. Suddenly, while they were all talking and having a good time, a hand appeared out of nowhere and started writing on the wall. The king watched the hand as it wrote, "Mene, Mene, Tekel, Parsin" (Daniel 5:25). The King was very scared! He did not know what the writing meant!

The king decided that he needed some help. He called for some smart people to see if they knew what the words meant but no one could understand them. Finally, the king's wife remembered me, Daniel. She remembered that God had given me a lot of wisdom. The king called for me.

I said to the king: God has given you everything that you need and a lot more; more than he has given to most people! You know that God gave you these things! You know how powerful God is, but you do not honor or give thanks to him. You act like you do not need God. You don't help your friends to know God, and you do not tell them anything about him.

Then I told him what the words on the wall meant. Ask the children if they know what the words mean. I told the king that the words mean that God is going to take away your friends (remove the party hats from the children). He is going to take away all your gold and silver. (Remove the cups.) The words also mean that because you did not obey God, you will not be king anymore.

And that was exactly what happened. God made someone else king to take Belshazzar's place.



Writing on the Wall

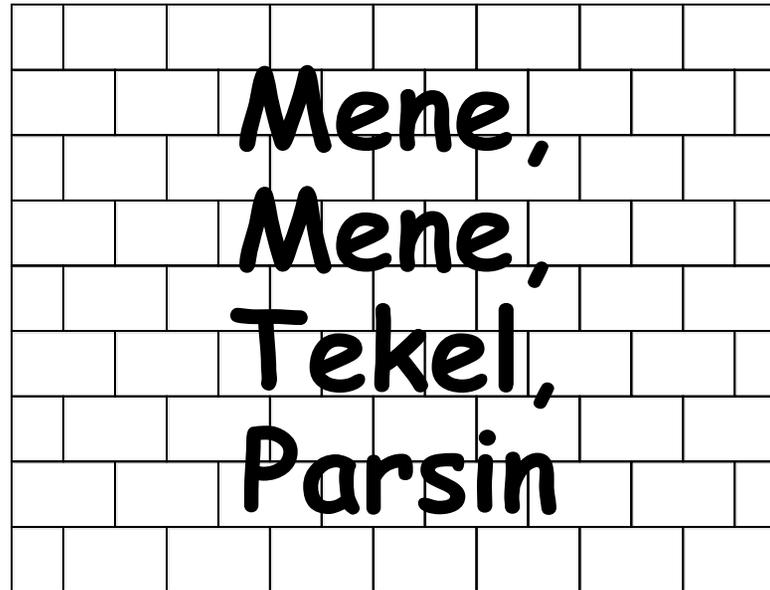
Conclusion

Ask the following questions as a review:

- What things did God give the king? (friends, a kingdom, God made him a king)
- Did the king know about God? (yes)
- Did the king thank God for giving him all of these things? (no)
- Do you think that the king obeyed God? (no)
- Why did God take away all the king's gold and silver? (because he thought they were more important than God)
- Why couldn't Belshazzar be king any more? (He didn't love and honor God.)
- Did the king help his friends to know God, or did he help them disobey God? (disobey)
- How do you think God felt about the king? (sad)

Teacher Tips

- If you can't buy party hats you can make them with a piece of construction paper. Twist the paper to form a cone and then staple it. Trim the excess to make a party hat shape.





Influencing Others

The children will talk about how they can influence their friends in a good way this week.

Scripture Memory Verse

Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God.

Daniel 6:10

Materials

For the teacher:

- magazines
- hat or cup

Preparation

1. Cut out several pictures of hearts, mouths, ears and hands from the magazines.
2. Place the pictures in the hat.
3. Save a picture of a mouth for the Scripture Memory Activity.

Instructions

1. Have the children sit in a circle. Show the children some of the pictures. *What are all these things? Yes, they are parts of our bodies that God gave to us. With these parts of our bodies, we can show God that we love him. Or we can use these parts of our bodies to disobey God. The king in the Bible story today used the parts of his body to disobey God. He used them to help his friends disobey God, too.*
2. Have a child reach into the hat and pick a picture of a body part.
3. Have him tell the group what the picture is. Then have the child say one way that he can use that body part to make God happy this week. For instance, if he chooses a mouth he could say that he would use encouraging words with his sister this week.
4. Let the children take turns sharing how they will show God that they love him.

Scripture Memory Activity

Show the children the picture of the mouth. Explain to the children that one of the reasons that God gave us mouths is so that we can share verses of the Bible with each other.

Ask if anyone can say the Scripture Memory Verse. Repeat the verse together a few times, and then ask if anyone can recite it alone.

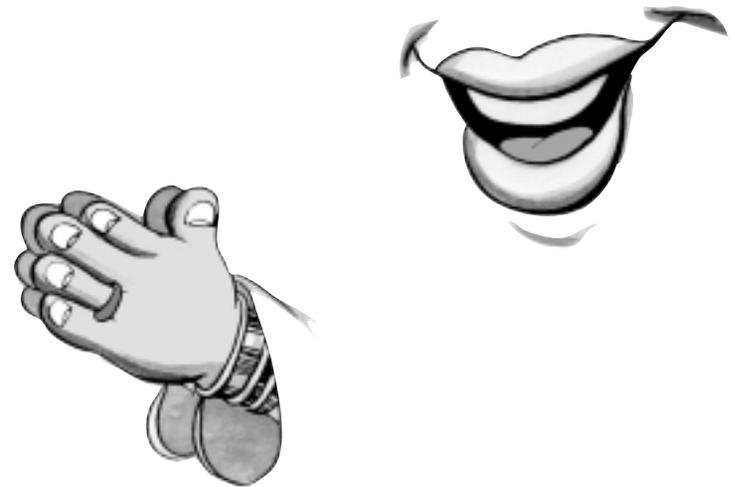
Conclusion

Show the children the picture of the mouth again. Explain that God also gave us mouths so that we could share about him with other people.

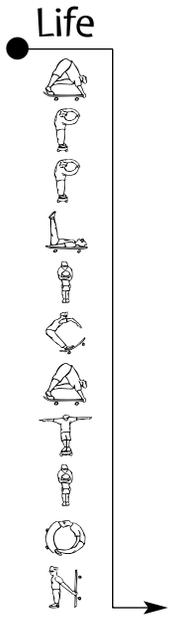
Choose a child to pray for the class to help everyone to use the parts of their bodies to please God.

Teacher Tips

- It may be helpful for you to do the activity first as an example.
- Be helpful to the children that may have a hard time expressing themselves. For example, you can give them ideas of how they would use their ears by saying: *Do you think it will make God happy when you listen to your mommy when she asks you to put away your toys?*



Writing on the Wall



Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God.

Daniel 6:10



Writing on the Wall

Friends-2

The children will make a locket to remind them to obey.

Materials

For each child:

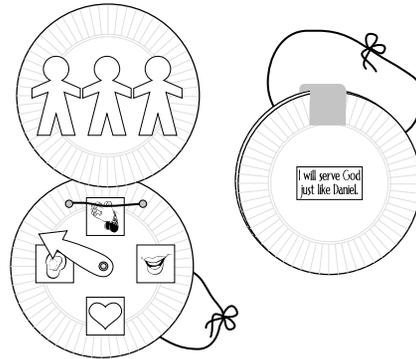
- 2 heavy-duty paper plates
- crayons and/or markers
- glue stick
- 1 brass fastener
- envelope from the Preclass Activity

For the teacher:

- hole punch
- construction paper
- pushpin
- pencil
- yarn
- poster board
- tape

Reproducible Pages:

- Page B, 1 copy for each child
- Page C, 1 copy for every 5 children



Preparation

1. Cut out the pictures and one arrow stencil from the copies of Reproducible Page B.
2. Cut out the text boxes from the copies of Reproducible Page C.
3. Cut one 30" piece of yarn for each child.
4. Prepare an arrow for each child as follows:
 - A. Trace and cut out an arrow from poster board.
 - B. Make a small hole in the center of the arrow with a pushpin or the sharp end of a pencil.
5. Prepare half of the plates as follows:
 - A. Punch two holes, 4" apart, near the edge of the plate.
 - B. Using a pushpin, make a small hole in the center of the plate.
 - C. Lace a piece of yarn through the two holes in each plate and then tie it.
6. Cut a 2" x 3" piece of construction paper for each child.
7. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.

Instructions

1. Give each child a paper plate without holes and their envelope from the Preclass Activity. Have the children glue their paper friends onto the inside of the paper plate.
2. Give each child a plate with the yarn attached and the pictures from Reproducible Page B. Have them color and glue the pictures to the inside of the plate, as shown in Figure A.
3. Give each child an arrow and a brass fastener. Help the children push the fastener through the hole in the arrow, and then through the hole in the plate. Help the child to open and spread out the fastener's wings, taping it in place.
4. Help each child to assemble their lockets as follows:
 - A. Have the children place their two plates together face-to-face. NOTE: The friends will be upside down when the plates are facing each other.
 - B. Give each child a construction paper strip.
 - C. Have the children tape one end of the construction paper strip between the two punched holes on the outside of the plate. See Figure B.
 - D. Have them bend the strip over and then tape it to the plate on the other side serving as a hinge for the locket.
5. Give each child a text box to glue to the outside of their locket.
6. Help the children to write their names on their lockets.

Conclusion

Have the children open their lockets and turn the arrows. Let them share about how they can use each body part to serve their friends and God.

Teacher Tips

- With younger children do a few of the steps before class for them.
- If time allows, have the children color their lockets.

Writing on the Wall

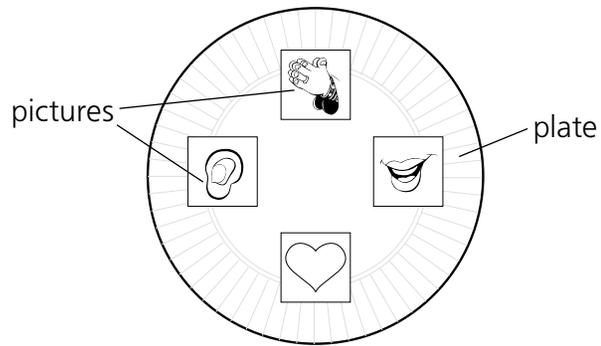


Figure A

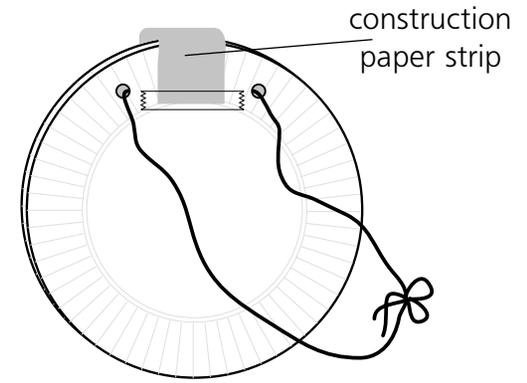
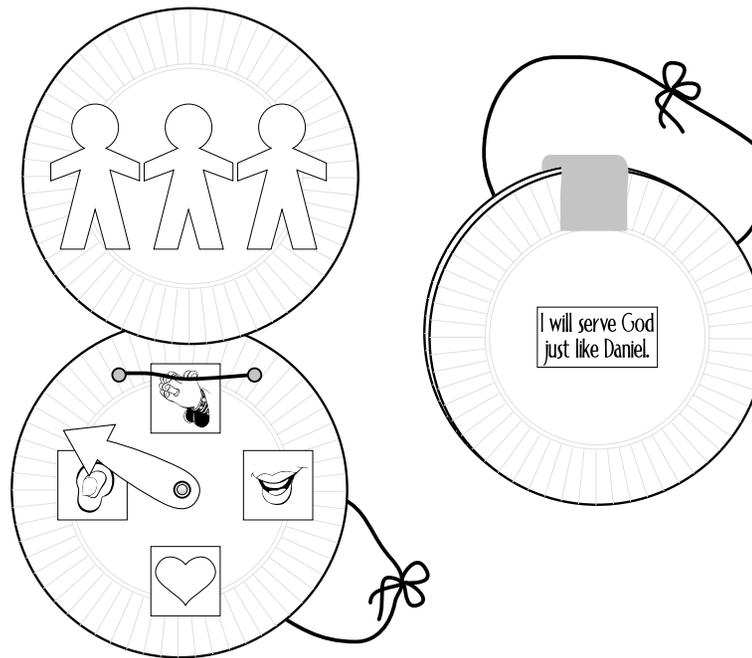


Figure B



Finished Craft



Writing on the Wall

Lesson Objectives

- The children will identify King Belshazzar as one who did not obey God.
- The children will describe a way that they can make God happy with their bodies.
- The children will name a friend that they will influence in a good way this week.

Lesson Text

Daniel 5

Scripture Memory Verse

Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God.

Daniel 6:10

Secret Message-1

The children will each make a "hand" that will be part of the craft.

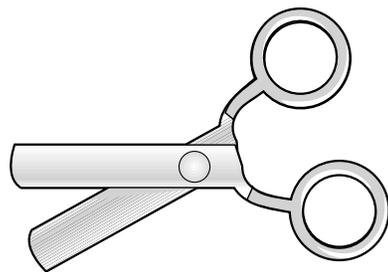
Materials

For each child:

- scissors
- crayons or markers

For the teacher:

- construction paper
- pen



Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Secret Message-1

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Game: Belshazzar Bowling

Craft: Secret Message-2

Life Application: Influencing Others

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.

Instructions

1. Trace each child's hand on a piece of construction paper.
2. Have the children color their hands.
3. Have the children cut out their hands.
4. Help the children to write their names on their hands.
5. Give the hands to the craft teacher.

Conclusion

Remind the children of the Bible story in which a hand appeared and wrote on the king's wall. Daniel was the only one who could read the mysterious words.

Teacher Tips

- Some children may need help cutting out their paper hands.



Belshazzar Bowling

The children will be reminded of the Bible story and God's desire that we worship only him.

Materials

For the teacher:

- 3 toilet paper tubes
- a ball
- masking tape
- a piece of construction paper
- a marker
- scissors

Reproducible Pages:

- Page D, 1 copy for the teacher

Preparation

1. Cut the piece of paper into 3 equal pieces.
2. Wrap each toilet paper tube with one of the pieces.
3. On one toilet paper tube write "Hard" on the second write "Medium" and on the third write "Easy."
4. Before class set up the three tubes on the floor in the order of hard, medium and easy. Set them up at least a foot apart so that only one can be knocked over at a time.
5. Make a starting line with masking tape about five feet from the tubes.
6. Familiarize yourself with the questions on Reproducible Page D.

Instructions

1. Have the children sit down a few feet behind the starting line. Explain to them that they will play a game to help them remember the Bible story. Remind them that the story was about a king who did not want to obey God. God did something very strange to tell the king that he was in trouble.
2. Point out that there are three tubes and tell the children what each one says. Explain that there are hard, medium and easy questions to go along with each tube.

3. Choose a child to go first. Give the child the ball and have him sit on the masking tape line and then roll the ball knocking over one of the tubes.
4. Pick up the tube that was knocked over then ask a question from the corresponding list.
5. If the child answers the question correctly, have that child choose the next child to take a turn. If the child gives the wrong answer, someone from the group may help until the question is answered correctly.
6. If you run out of questions from the lists, take the corresponding tubes away.
7. Continue until all of the tubes are gone or until the activity time is over.

Teacher Tips

- Be sure to give clues helping those that may have a hard time answering.
- If the children have difficulties knocking down the tubes, allow them to sit closer to them.
- Color code the tubes. For instance; make easy purple, make medium red and make hard blue.





Writing on the wall

Secret Message-2

The children will be reminded of the Bible story and Daniel's faithful relationship with God.

Materials

For each child:

- 1 piece of construction paper
- 1 watercolor paintbrush
- glue stick

For the teacher:

- watercolor paints
- hands from the Preclass Activity
- white crayon
- scissors

Reproducible Pages:

- Page E, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Cut out the pictures from the copies of Reproducible Page E.
2. Write across the wall on each picture, "Daniel trusted God." using the white crayon.
3. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.

Instructions

1. Remind the children of the story of Daniel and how he interpreted the writing on the wall. Remind them that God wrote a message to the king on the wall because he wasn't happy with him. Ask the children if they remember why God was not happy with the king. (He didn't obey God.) God didn't allow anyone to understand the message except Daniel, because Daniel trusted and obeyed God.
2. Give each child a picture and explain that there is a secret message written on their pictures. They will be just like Daniel and understand the message.
3. Give each child a piece of construction paper. Have them glue the picture of the wall to the center of the construction paper.

4. Give each child watercolors and have them paint their pictures.
5. While the pictures are drying, help the children to "read" the message that is written on the picture. (Most children are too young to read.) Read it together by having all the children say, "Daniel trusted God" with you.
6. Give the children their construction paper hands from the pre-class activity. Have them glue these to their pictures. Make sure they don't cover up the words.

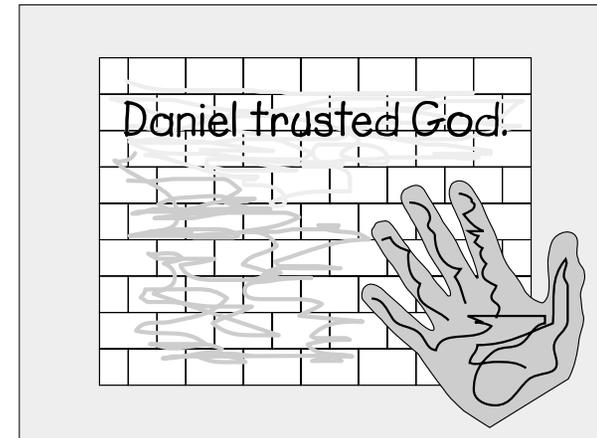
Conclusion

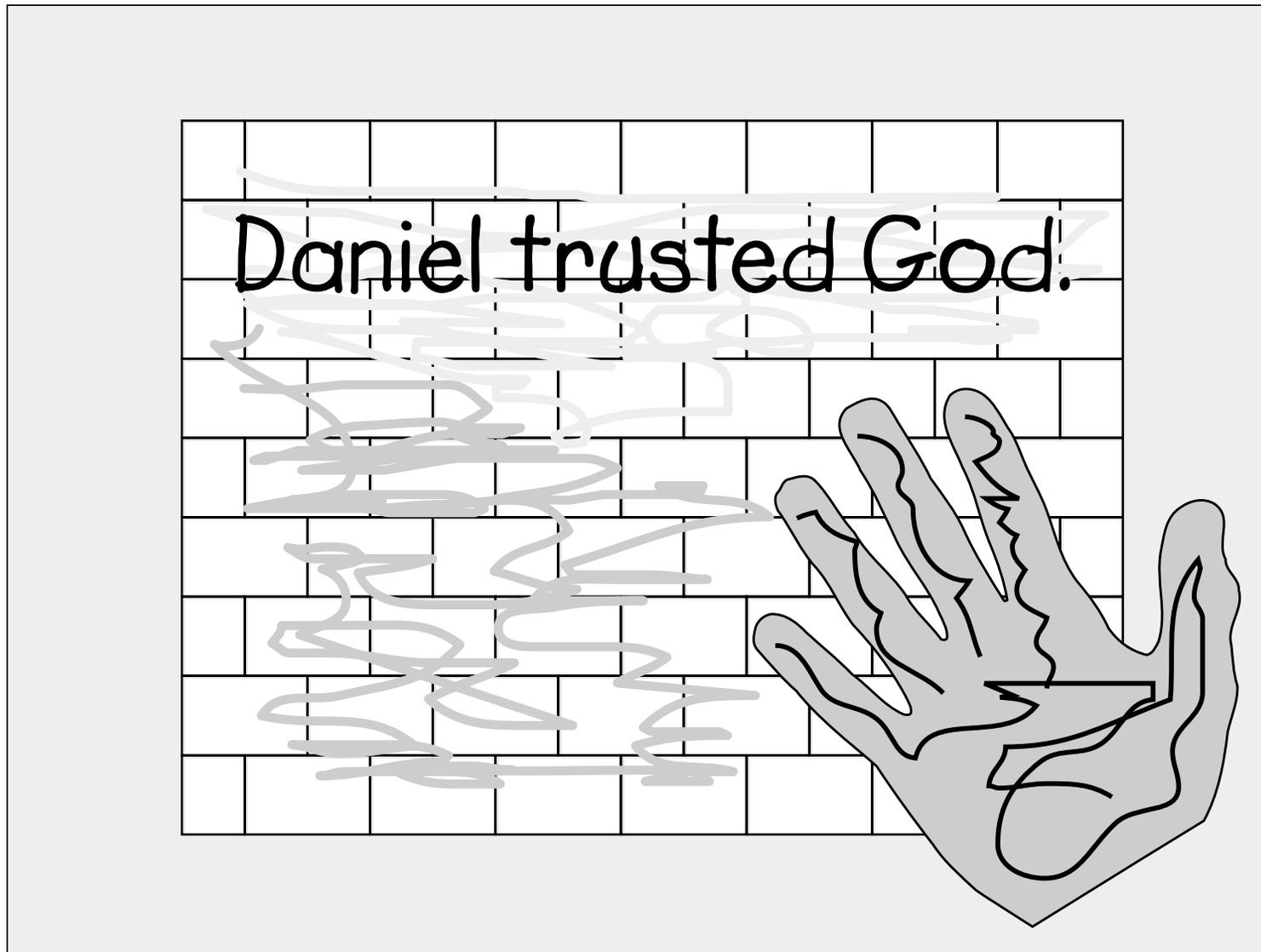
Ask the children the following questions:

- Could the king see the words on the wall? (yes)
- Did he know what they meant? (no)
- What were the words that God wrote on the wall? (Mene, Mene, Tekel, Parsin)
- Do we know what the words on our wall say? (Daniel trusted God.)

Teacher Tips

Help the children to use small amounts of water. Too much water will cause the paper to rip.





Finished Craft





Influencing Others

The children will talk about how they can influence their friends in a good way this week.

Scripture Memory Verse

Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God.

Daniel 6:10

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For the teacher:

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Scripture Memory Activity

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Conclusion

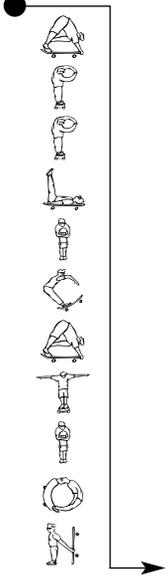
Show the children the picture of the mouth again. Explain that God also gave us mouths so that we could share about him with other people.

Choose a child to pray for the class to help everyone to use the parts of their bodies to please God.

Teacher Tips

- It may be helpful for you to do the activity first as an example.
- Be helpful to the children that may have a hard time expressing themselves. For example, you can give them ideas of how they would use their ears by saying: *Do you think it will make God happy when you listen to your mommy when she asks you to put away your toys?*





Writing on the wall

Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God.

Daniel 6:10



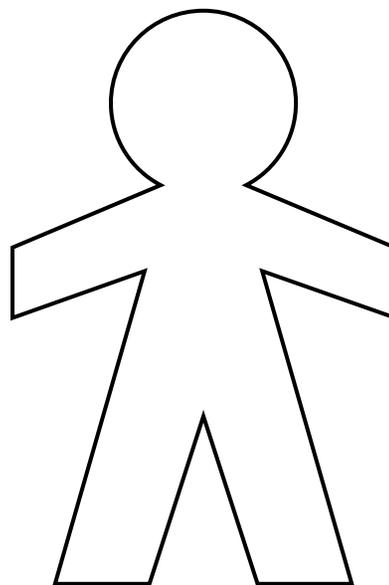
Core/Preclass Activity

1 copy for each child

Read Bible

Page

A

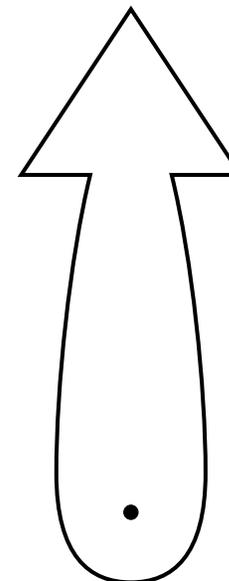
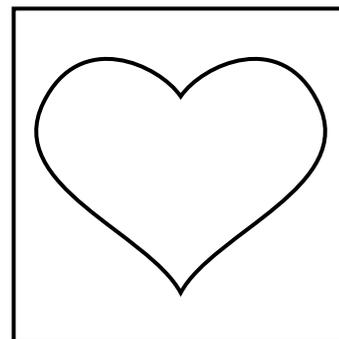
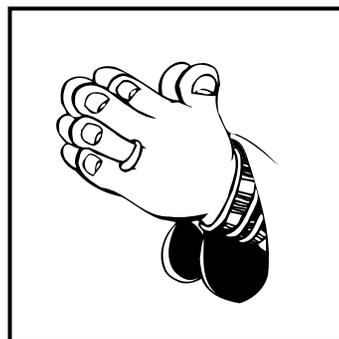
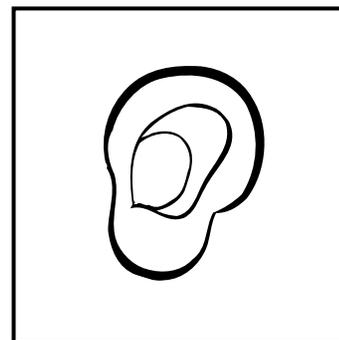
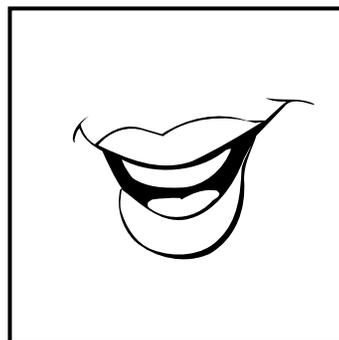


friend stencil



Core/Craft
1 copy for each child

A-B-C-E-O-T-P-R
a-b-c-e-o-t-p-r
Page
B



Supplement/Craft

1 copy for each child

R
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F

