

**TEACHER NOTECARDS LEVEL 4, QUARTER D—
WORLD AMBASSADORS**

Use these Teacher Notecards as a reference when teaching *Explore Scripture*. Choose the outline form or narrative form based on your teaching style and preference.*

Print on paper or cardstock. Fold in half, then fold again along the gray line. This will create a two-sided, notecard-sized piece for you to hold in your hand.

*The narrative form has been edited to fit on these cards. Please see the full *Explore Scripture* sections of each lesson for more interactivity, application, and content.

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Big Idea: **God blesses those who choose to obey His Word.**

Daniel 1 [outline form]

Intro: *Daniel and his friends chose to obey God above all other considerations.*

Ask: *Why is obeying God important?*

1. King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon invaded Judah and captured Jerusalem.
 - *The king’s official selected able-bodied, intelligent young men . . . Daniel 1:3-4*
 - *They began a three-year training program to serve the king. 1:5*
 - *The young Hebrews were assigned Babylonian names 1:6-7*

2. Daniel and his friends would not dishonor God (picture 4D.1).
 - *Daniel asked for a 10-day trial eating only vegetables. 1:8-14*
 - *At the end of 10-days, Daniel and his friends were healthier. 1:15*
 - *The official allowed them to continue to eat God-honoring food 1:16*

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3. God blessed Daniel and his friends with wisdom and understanding. (picture 4B.2)

- *Daniel could understand dreams and visions 1:17*
- *The chief official presented the young men to the king 1:18*
- *The king was impressed by their wisdom and understanding. 1:19*
- *Daniel and his friends entered the king’s service 1:19*

Conclusion: *Daniel and his friends obeyed God, even under the authority of a foreign kingdom. How can you obey God while living in the world?*

2

Big Idea: **God blesses those who choose to obey His Word.**

Daniel 1 [narrative form]

Intro: *Daniel and his friends chose to obey God above all other considerations.*

Ask: *Why is obeying God important?*

The Babylonian empire had conquered Judah. It was typical for a king to take treasures from the people who were conquered. *Do you think the Babylonians understood the power of the Hebrew God?* The Book of Daniel shows how God used Daniel and his Hebrew friends to be His ambassadors to the world—the Babylonian empire—and to represent the power and authority of God.

What kind of people did the king’s officials choose for King Nebuchadnezzar? Why did he look for the best and brightest young men? Encourage kids to respond. *What subjects did the official teach the Hebrew men? Why were they being trained?*

Why do you think the Babylonians changed their names? Possible answers: to make them forget their Hebrew heritage and their God; to honor their Babylonian gods; etc. *How would you feel if your name were changed to mean the opposite of*

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what your parents had named you? Encourage responses. Each of these young men had a name to remind him of the one true God. *Would these young men live up to their godly names or their new, Babylonian names?*

(picture 4D.1) *Why do you think what food they ate was important to the king? Why did Daniel risk the king’s displeasure by refusing his food?* Possible answers: he knew the food was prohibited by God’s law; the food had been dedicated to Babylonian gods; it would not please God; etc. Daniel did not simply refuse to obey the king. He offered an alternative by asking permission to eat only vegetables and water. Daniel respected authority while still obeying God first.

(picture 4D.2) *Why were the young men healthier than the people who ate the king’s food? How did God bless Daniel and his friends? What did the king discover after questioning them? After three years, how do you think Daniel and his friends felt about their actions?* Let children share.

God blessed Daniel for living up to his name—God alone was his judge. Daniel and his friends chose to live for God under situations that couldn’t have been easy. God wants us to know His Word and to stand for what is right. God is faithful, and He will bless us for living obediently.

2

Big Idea: **God controls everything that will take place in the future.**

Daniel 2 [outline form]

Intro: *God gave Daniel the ability to know and interpret the king's dream.*

Ask: *How do you feel, knowing that God controls the future?*

1. King Nebuchadnezzar had a troubling dream. He commanded his wise men to tell him the dream and to interpret it.

- *The men said that no one could do what the king wished Daniel 2:10-11*
- *The king ordered all the wise men executed 2:12-13*
- *The execution order included Daniel and his friends 2:13*

2. Daniel spoke to the king's commander with wisdom and tact.

- *Daniel asked the king for time 2:16*
- *Daniel and his friends pleaded with God to help them 2:17-18*
- *God revealed the dream to Daniel. . . . 2:19*
- *Daniel praised God for His goodness 2:20-23*

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3. Daniel was brought to the king, and explained that God had revealed the dream (picture 4C.3).

- *The king dreamed of a statue, with a golden head and silver chest . . . 2:31-32*
- *The belly and thighs were bronze, the legs iron, with iron and clay feet 2:32-33*
- *A huge rock struck the statue, destroying all the pieces. . . . 2:34-35*
- *The rock became a mountain that filled the entire earth 2:35*

4. Daniel then interpreted the dream for King Nebuchadnezzar.

- *The gold head was Nebuchadnezzar's empire 2:37-38*
- *The other parts were kingdoms that would follow (picture 4C.4) . . . 2:39-43*
- *The rock is God's eternal kingdom that will outlast all others 2:44-45*
- *The king praised God and rewarded Daniel and his friends 2:47-49*

Conclusion: *Only God was able to reveal the king's dream and knowledge of future events—He gave that knowledge to Daniel. Praise God as the giver of all knowledge!*

2

Big Idea: **God controls everything that will take place in the future.**

Daniel 2 [narrative form]

Intro: *God gave Daniel the ability to know and interpret the king's dream.*

Ask: *How do you feel, knowing that God controls the future?*

The king had a troubling dream. *What did his astrologers ask Nebuchadnezzar to provide? What punishment/reward did the king offer? Why was the king so angry?*

Encourage responses. *Why couldn't the wise men help the king?*

Why did the king's decree affect Daniel? How did Daniel respond to the news?

People handle stress in different ways. How did Daniel respond to this stressful situation? Why did Daniel praise God the next day? Encourage responses.

(picture 4D.3) *Why was Daniel careful not to take credit for interpreting the dream?* Encourage responses. *What object was the focus of the dream?* (picture 4D.4) The king dreamed of a statue with a head of gold, a chest of silver, belly and thighs of bronze, legs of iron, and feet of iron and clay. Describe the different metals and what each might mean. Then a rock crushed the statue, destroying it. The rock

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became a great mountain and filled the earth.

Describe the different empires of the dream. History proved Daniel's interpretation of the king's dream to be amazingly accurate! The gold head symbolized the pinnacle of power, wealth, and influence—the Babylonian empire. The silver chest and arms represented an inferior kingdom that would defeat Babylon. The Medo-Persian empire conquered Babylon in 539 BC. The belly and thighs of bronze represented the empire of Greece. In 332 BC, Alexander the Great conquered the Persian kingdom and spread the Greek culture. The legs of iron described the Roman empire, which overpowered the Middle East in 63 BC. The feet of iron and clay point to the weakened Roman empire. The great rock is God's Kingdom, established by Jesus and never to be destroyed.

Why do you think God gave the king this dream? How did Nebuchadnezzar respond? How did God use Daniel as an ambassador for Him? How did the king reward Daniel?

King Nebuchadnezzar wanted to understand his dream, but sorcery and false gods couldn't help him. Daniel knew that God alone could reveal this great mystery. Daniel and his friends prayed, and God faithfully revealed the dream to Daniel. When we read the Bible and pray, God reveals His will for us.

2

Big Idea: **God protects and rewards those who solely worship Him.**

Daniel 3 [outline form]

Intro: *God protected Daniel’s friends when they refused to worship the king’s statue and were punished.*

Ask: *How has God protected you?*

1. King Nebuchadnezzar ordered the creation of a 90 foot gold statue (picture 4D.5).
 - *The king invited all government officials to the statue’s dedication . . . Daniel 3:1-3*
 - *The herald ordered all to bow to the statue or burn in the furnace 3:4-7*
 - *Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego refused to bow to the statue. 3:8-12*
2. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego stood up to the king and had faith in God’s protection.
 - *The king ordered the three men thrown into the furnace 3:13-15*
 - *Daniel’s friends obeyed God and had faith God could save them 3:16-17*
 - *The three men believed dying was better than worshipping false gods 3:18*

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3. The king was angry Daniel’s friends would not obey him; he ordered them thrown into the fire.
 - *The king had the furnace stoked to be seven times hotter 3:19-20*
 - *The soldiers who went near the fire were killed by the heat 3:21-23*
 - *The king saw four men walking in the fire unbound and unharmed 3:24*
 - *The king described the fourth person as a “son of the gods” 3:25*
4. The king was amazed at God’s protection and instructed his people to worship God alone (picture 4D.6).
 - *The king’s men marveled that the three men were unharmed. 3:26-27*
 - *The king praised the three men and claimed God as the only true God . . 3:28-29*
 - *The king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego 3:30*

Conclusion: *The three young men were willing to risk their lives to worship God alone. God rescued Daniel’s friends, and He is watching over you! When you obey God even when its hard—He has a big reward waiting!*

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Big Idea: **God protects and rewards those who solely worship Him.**

Daniel 3 [narrative form]

Intro: *God protected Daniel’s friends when they refused to worship the king’s statue and were punished.*

Ask: *How has God protected you?*

As God’s ambassadors, Daniel’s three friends had a difficult choice to make between obeying the Lord and obeying a law that dishonored Him.

Read Daniel 3:1-7. *What was the size of the statue? What was everyone in the kingdom ordered to do at the statue dedication ceremony? What was the consequence for disobeying? (picture 4D.5) Why did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego risk death by not bowing down?* Read Exodus 20:4-5 to show which commandment the men were obeying.

Read verses 8-15. *When the king learned that the Jews didn’t bow down to the statue, how did he react? What did Nebuchadnezzar say that showed he was very power-hungry?* (He asked what god could save them from his hand.)

Read Daniel 3:16-18. *Do you think Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were fearful*

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or doubted God’s ability to protect them? The three young men gave the king a three-part answer: 1) There was no defense or debate—they must obey God; 2) They had faith that God could save them; 3) They believed it was worth dying in order to not serve false gods or worship them. *Who do you know today who has that kind of faith?*

Read verses 19-27. *How did Nebuchadnezzar respond to the testimony of these three men? What amazed Nebuchadnezzar? (picture 4D.6) How did he describe the fourth person?* Many scholars believe this fourth person was an angel or the Son of God, Jesus. Describe the appearance of the three men when they came out of the furnace.

Read Daniel 3:28-30. *How did Nebuchadnezzar respond to this undeniable miracle? How does obedience open the door for God to do something powerful?*

The three young men put their trust in God and His power to protect them. God rescued Daniel’s friends, and this same powerful God is watching over you. When your circumstances make it very hard to obey God—He has a big reward waiting!

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Big Idea: **God shows mercy when He humbles those who walk in pride.**

Daniel 4 [outline form]

Intro: *God allowed King Nebuchadnezzar to be humbled for seven years because of his pride.*

Ask: *Why is it important not to be prideful?*

1. The king invited Daniel to interpret a new dream about a large tree that is chopped down (picture 4D.7).

- *Nebuchadnezzar wrote an account of God’s mercy Daniel 4:1-8*
- *The king asked Daniel to help understand his dream about a tree 4:9-12*
- *A heavenly being ordered the tree cut down, leaving only a stump 4:13-15*
- *The dream showed a man with the mind of an animal. 4:15-17*

2. Daniel interpreted the king’s dream and pleaded with him to repent.

- *Daniel was scared to inform the king the dream’s meaning 4:19*
- *The tree represent the king’s empire covering the earth 4:20-23*
- *The dream meant the king would lose his mind until he praised God 4:24-26*
- *Daniel advised the king to repent and follow God 4:27*

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3. One year later the king’s pride overtook him and God allowed the dream to come true. After seven years he praised God, and his sanity and kingdom returned. (picture 4D.8).

- *The king’s pride grew too great, and God removed his authority and sanity . . 4:28-32*
- *The king lived in the wild and ate grass like an ox 4:33*
- *After seven years, Nebuchadnezzar praised God, and his sanity returned. . . 4:34-35*
- *God restored his sovereignty, and his kingdom grew greater than before . . 4:36-37*

Conclusion: *The king sinned when he believed all he did was for his own glory, considering himself more important than God. Every person can be tempted to let pride rule his or her life. When we humble ourselves before the Lord, He will lift us up!*

2

Big Idea: **God shows mercy when He humbles those who walk in pride.**

Daniel 4 [narrative form]

Intro: *God allowed King Nebuchadnezzar to be humbled for seven years because of his pride.*

Ask: *Why is it important not to be prideful?*

Read Daniel 4:1-9. Daniel records Nebuchadnezzar’s letter written to every living person. *What was Nebuchadnezzar’s purpose in addressing everyone? After his terrifying dream, who did Nebuchadnezzar request to see? How did the king show that he still didn’t understand Daniel’s faith?*

Read Daniel 4:10-18. (picture 4D.7) *What do you think the dream meant? What parts of the dream probably frightened the king?*

Read verses 19-27. *Why was Daniel afraid to tell the king the meaning of the dream? Why do you think a tree symbolized Nebuchadnezzar in the dream? What urgent warning did Daniel give the king?*

The king didn’t heed Daniel’s advice, and the dream didn’t immediately come

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true—God gave the king time to repent. Read Daniel 4:28-33. One year later, the king was quite impressed with himself. *What did Nebuchadnezzar think as he looked at the city of Babylon? At that moment, God fulfilled the king’s dream. How bad did the situation become for Nebuchadnezzar?*

Finally, Nebuchadnezzar decided to change. Read Daniel verses 34-37. (picture 4D.8) *How was Nebuchadnezzar’s sanity restored? How else did God restore the king? Why did Nebuchadnezzar think God deserved glory? What conclusion did the king draw about God?*

It was not wrong for King Nebuchadnezzar to be pleased with his accomplishments and the way he ruled his kingdom. But the king sinned when he believed that all he had done was for his own glory. He considered himself more important than God.

God shows mercy when He humbles those who walk in pride. In the end, Nebuchadnezzar “woke up” and acknowledged and praised God. When we humble ourselves before the Lord, He will lift us up.

2

Big Idea: **God punishes arrogant people who exalt themselves over others.**

Daniel 5 [outline form]

Intro: *King Nebuchadnezzar’s grandson Belshazzar did not honor God with his reign.*

Ask: *How does arrogance affect the way we treat God and others?*

1. King Belshazzar and his dinner guests used goblets from God’s temple to worship other gods.

- *The king threw a great banquet for thousands of his nobles Daniel 5:1*
- *Belshazzar brought out special goblets from the Jerusalem Temple 5:2-3*
- *The guests gave praise to false gods while drinking out of the cups 5:4*

2. A human finger appears and wrote a mysterious message that the king’s wise men could not read (picture 4D.9).

- *The king watched in fear as human fingers wrote on the palace wall 5:5-6*
- *Belshazzar offered reward and power for translating the message 5:7*
- *The king grew more terrified when the wise men could not help 5:8-9*

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3. Daniel was called to help due to his wisdom and spiritual insight with King Nebuchadnezzar (picture 4D.10).

- *The queen advised the king to call the wise and intelligent Daniel. . . . 5:10-12*
- *Daniel was offered power and wealth to help the king 5:13-16*
- *Daniel reminded the king of Nebuchadnezzar’s lesson 5:18-21*
- *Belshazzar’s use of the goblets dishonored God and showed pride 5:22-24*

4. Daniel interpreted the writing and warned Belshazzar that his days were numbered.

- *The message said the king’s life would be short and his reign would end 5:26*
- *The kingdom would be given to the Medes and Persians 5:27*
- *Daniel was honored as the third highest ruler of the kingdom 5:29*
- *Belshazzar was killed that night, replaced by Darius the Mede 5:29*

Conclusion: *Because Belshazzar intentionally sinned against God—the Lord sent him a final message! Belshazzar’s arrogance blinded him from obeying God and his whole kingdom suffered. It is important that we are not puffed up with pride, but that we remember God as our leader that we can trust and obey.*

2

Big Idea: **God punishes arrogant people who exalt themselves over others.**

Daniel 5 [narrative form]

Intro: *King Nebuchadnezzar’s grandson Belshazzar did not honor God with his reign.*

Ask: *How does arrogance affect the way we treat God and others?*

In our last lesson, King Nebuchadnezzar repented of his proud spirit—and God restored his throne. Today’s passage takes place years later when Nebuchadnezzar’s grandson, Belshazzar, ruled the Babylonian Empire.

Read Daniel 5:1-4. *Where did the gold and silver goblets come from? What was wrong with using the goblets? Who did the people praise?*

Read Daniel 5:5-6. (picture 4D.9) *What thoughts might the people at the banquet have had? Read verses 7-9. What did the king offer as a reward for being able to read the writing and reveal its meaning? Why do you think the king’s wise men couldn’t interpret the message? Encourage responses.*

Read Daniel 5:10-12. *Why did the queen suggest Daniel to come interpret the message? What good things did the queen say about Daniel?*

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Read Daniel 5:13-21. (picture 4D.10) *Why do you think Daniel didn’t want to accept the gifts? Why did Daniel lecture the king?*

Read verses 22-31. *What difference did Daniel note between Nebuchadnezzar and Belshazzar? What six substances were the king’s gods made of? What three things could these gods not do? In what two ways is the one true God powerful?*

What did these three words mean: Mene, Tekel, Peres? How long did it take for God’s message to be fulfilled?

When God says something, He means it! Because Belshazzar intentionally sinned against God—the Lord sent him a final message! Belshazzar’s arrogance blinded him from obeying God, and he and his entire kingdom suffered the consequences. As we remember how God judged the king, let’s be inspired to remain humble and obedient to God!

2

Big Idea: **God rescues people who trust Him and do what is right.**

Daniel 6 [outline form]

Intro: *King Darius' officials plotted to trap Daniel who still trusted God and obeyed.*

Ask: *How does trusting in God's protection allow us to obey God completely?*

1. King Darius promoted Daniel creating jealousy with other government officials.
 - *Daniel was promoted to one of three leaders over 120 satraps . . . Daniel 6:1-2*
 - *King Darius noticed him as exceptional, wise and without corruption. . . . 6:3*
 - *The jealous officials plotted to trap Daniel's through his faith in God. . . . 6:4-5*
2. King Darius issued a decree at the official's request, requiring worship of the king alone.
 - *The satraps flattered the king, convincing him to make the command . . . 6:6-9*
 - *Anyone who refused to pray to King Darius would be thrown to the lions . . . 6:7*
 - *Daniel disobeyed the law and openly prayed three times a day to God. . . 6:10-11*

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3. Daniel was caught praying and brought before the king for punishment (picture 4D.11).
 - *The satraps found Daniel praying and revealed this to the king 6:11-12*
 - *The king could not save Daniel from his own law 6:13-15*
 - *The king ordered Daniel thrown into the lion's den 6:16-17*
4. God closed the mouth of the lions to prove Daniel's innocence and show His power to Darius (picture 4D.12).
 - *The king could not sleep and ran to see if God had rescued Daniel. . . 6:18-20*
 - *Daniel told the king an angel of the Lord had shut the lion's mouths. . . 6:21-22*
 - *King Darius freed Daniel and punished the satraps 6:23-25*
 - *The king praised God for the miracle before the entire kingdom 6:25-28*

Conclusion: *Daniel, God's ambassador, continually served the Lord. God rescued him because he obeyed God instead of man's laws, leading King Darius to proclaim the Lord's greatness. Determine to trust God and do what is right, He will be there to support and strengthen you!*

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Big Idea: **God rescues people who trust Him and do what is right.**

Daniel 6 [narrative form]

Intro: *King Darius' officials plotted to trap Daniel who still trusted God and obeyed.*

Ask: *How does trusting in God's protection allow us to obey God completely?*

Read Daniel 6:1-4. Our story begins when King Darius appointed officials to help rule his new kingdom. These "satraps" were in charge of a small region, like the mayor of a city or the governor of a state. *How many satraps ruled throughout the kingdom? Why were they jealous of Daniel? What did the satraps hope to find in Daniel? Why didn't they find any problems?*

Read Daniel 6:5-9. *What was the only way the men could trap Daniel? Jealousy led the men to hatch a plan that would end in Daniel's death. What plan did they present to the king? Why do you think the king liked the law?*

Now let's find out how Daniel responded. Read Daniel 6:10. (picture 4D.11) *What did Daniel do when he heard about the law? What things might Daniel have thanked God for in his prayer?*

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Read Daniel 6:11-16. *How did the satraps truly feel when they revealed that Daniel had broken the law? How did Darius feel? What final words did the king say to Daniel?*

Read Daniel 6:17-23. *How did the king spend the night? How did he show his concern for Daniel? Why was Daniel unharmed?* (picture 4D.12)

Read Daniel 6:24-28. *What happened to the men who had accused Daniel? How did King Darius respond to this show of God's faithfulness and power?*

Daniel, God's ambassador, continually served the Lord. God rescued Daniel because he chose to obey God instead of the laws of people. In the end, Daniel's actions brought God even more glory. King Darius proclaimed the Lord's greatness throughout his realm.

When we determine to live for God by doing what is right, He is there to support and strengthen us. When the world sees our faithfulness to the Lord, we bring Him greater glory.

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Level 4D—World Ambassadors Lesson 7: Daunting Dream

Big Idea: **In the end, God will overcome all His enemies and rule the entire earth.**

Daniel 7 [outline form]

Intro: *God revealed to Daniel His victory over four major empires.*

Ask: *Why do you think God showed Himself victor over His enemies?*

1. Daniel dreamed of four unique beasts that arose from the sea (picture 4D.13).
 - *The first beast was a human-like lion with eagle’s wings Daniel 7:4*
 - *Then a bear arose with three ribs in its teeth 7:5*
 - *A leopard came forth with four wings and four heads 7:6*
 - *A terrible ten-horned beast crushed and trampled many 7:7*
2. Jesus, the Ancient One, will show Himself to be far more powerful.
 - *One horn of the beast grew arrogant, uprooting other horns 7:8*
 - *The arrogant horn would be destroyed and the beasts made powerless. . . . 7:11*
 - *Jesus would be given authority in an eternal reign over the earth. . . . 7:13-15*

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3. Daniel was terrified and asked God to explain the meaning of the vision.
 - *The four beasts were four kingdoms that God would defeat 7:17-18*
 - *Daniel grew most concerned about the last kingdom. 7:19-22*
 - *Ten kings would rule; the greatest would oppose God and His people . . 7:19-24*
 - *God would judge that king, and place Jesus on the eternal throne 7:26-27*
4. Bible scholars interpret this dream from historical accounts of world empires (picture 4D.14).
 - *The lion represented the Babylonian empire and King Nebuchadnezzar*
 - *The bear was the Medo-Persian empire that defeated Babylon, Lydia, and Egypt*
 - *The leopard was the Greek empire with four kings who follow Alexander the Great*
 - *The beast represented Rome, and the horn the future antichrist that will oppose God*

Conclusion: *In the end, God will overcome all His enemies and rule the entire earth. Evil forces will eventually be defeated. We don’t have to fear the future because we know who wins—God! Those who follow Jesus have their name written in the book of life, so believe in him today!*

2

Level 4D—World Ambassadors Lesson 7: Daunting Dream

Big Idea: **In the end, God will overcome all His enemies and rule the entire earth.**

Daniel 7 [narrative form]

Intro: *God revealed to Daniel His victory over four major empires.*

Ask: *Why do you think God showed Himself victor over His enemies?*

Read Daniel 7:1-3. (picture 4D.13) *What do you remember about King Belshazzar? Where did the four beasts come from?* Read Daniel 7:4-8. (picture 4D.14)

Beast #1: the Lion The lion represents the Babylonian empire. Most Bible scholars agree that the wings plucked from the lion refer to Nebuchadnezzar’s years of insanity (Daniel 4:16).

Beast #2: the Bear The bear represents the Medo-Persian empire. The Medo-Persians conquered a very large area—modern-day Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Syria, Turkey, Iraq, Pakistan, and Afghanistan.

Beast #3: the Leopard The leopard represents the Greek empire. Alexander the Great was known for quickly conquering country after country. Alexander died unexpectedly. The four heads represent his four generals who took control of

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different regions: Macedonia, Asia Minor (Turkey), Syria, and Egypt.

Beast #4: the Terrifying Beast This beast represents the Roman empire. Roman emperors ruled for several hundred years and expanded Rome’s borders beyond any previous empire. Although the beast represents Rome, most scholars believe that “the little horn” represents the antichrist, a ruler who will oppose God in the last days.

The Ancient of Days: Read Daniel 7:9-14. *Who else did Daniel see in this portion of his dream? What did God give to Jesus? How do you feel knowing that Jesus’ kingdom will never be destroyed?* Read Daniel 7:15-28. *What will take place after the little horn, the antichrist, comes to power?*

In the end, God will overcome all His enemies and rule the entire earth. We don’t have to fear the future because we know who wins—God! Those whose names are written in the book of life will join Jesus forever. Is your name written there?

2

Big Idea: **God fulfills His prophecies about future events—to the smallest detail!**

Daniel 8 [outline form]

Intro: *Gabriel interpreted Daniel's second vision of a goat defeating a great ram.*

Ask: *How does it make you feel knowing that God knows the future?*

1. Daniel had a second dream during the third year of King Belshazzar's reign (picture 4D.15).

- *Daniel saw in a vision a ram in the river by Susa Daniel 8:1-3*
- *The ram butted everything out to the west, north, and south. 8:4*
- *A single-horned goat appeared from the west, crossing the land swiftly 8:5*
- *The goat ran towards the ram in a rage, defeating him 8:6-7*

2. The goat rose to power, crushed the Temple of the Lord, and destroyed many.

- *The goat's large horn was broken off and replaced by four 8:8*
- *One of the four horns devastated many people and lands 8:9*
- *It challenged the Lord, oppressed Israel, and destroyed the Temple 8:9-11*
- *All would be made right and the Temple restored after 2,300 days . . . 8:12-14*



3. The angel Gabriel explained the vision to Daniel who fell to the ground terrified (picture 4D.16).

- *The two-horned ram represented the Medo-Persian Empire. 8:19-20*
- *The goat represented Greece—the first king would be mighty. 8:21*
- *Greece would split into four kingdoms—less powerful than before 8:22*
- *A fierce king would destroy many and persecute Israel for 2,300 days. . 8:23-26*

4. Historical events show that Daniel's vision came true.

- *Babylon fell to the Medo-Persian empire—the “ram” (539-333 BC)*
- *The Greek Empire's first king was Alexander the Great (333-063 BC)*
- *Alexander died and four generals ruled the divided kingdom (333-063 BC)*
- *Antiochus IV of Syria reigned 2,300 days before the Jews overthrew him (175-164 BC)*

Conclusion: *Daniel's vision came true in every detail. This gives us even more confidence that God's Word is accurate concerning the future. Be encouraged that God is involved and aware of every detail in your life!*



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Intro: *Gabriel interpreted Daniel's second vision of a goat defeating a great ram.*

Ask: *How does it make you feel knowing that God knows the future?*

Read Daniel 8:1-4. *When did this dream take place?* At this point in time, Babylon is still a powerful empire. In the vision, Daniel is at the citadel in Susa. (picture 4D.15) *What animal does Daniel see? What details are revealed about the ram?* The ram represents the Medo-Persian empire. History tells us that the Medo-Persian kings came and conquered Babylon.

Read verses 5-8. The goat refers to the Greek empire. The single horn between its eyes refers to Alexander the Great. *What happened to the ram? What happened to the goat? What happened to the goat's horn in the vision?* This refers to Alexander's early death at the age of 32. The four horns that grew up afterward represented the four Greek generals who divided up the kingdom after Alexander's death.



Read Daniel 8:9-14. *What grew out of one of the horns?* This little horn referred to the Syrian ruler, Antiochus IV, who came to power in 175 BC. First, this evil king didn't allow the Jews to make the daily sacrifices to God. Next, he placed an image of Zeus in the Jerusalem Temple. Then, he persecuted the Jewish people. *According to Daniel's vision, how long would the Jews suffer?* Do the math and it comes out to over six years—the exact amount of time that Antiochus persecuted the Jews until they overthrew him! God is exact—to the smallest detail!

Read verses 15-27. (picture 4D.16) The angel Gabriel explained to Daniel what some of the vision meant. *Why do you think he told Daniel to seal up the vision? How did Daniel respond to this vision?*

Daniel's vision came true in every detail. This gives us even more confidence that God's Word is accurate concerning the future. We can be sure that God is involved in and aware of the details in our lives as well.



Level 4D—World Ambassadors Lesson 9: Seventy “Sevens”

Big Idea: **God answers the prayers of people who seek Him.**

Daniel 9 [outline form]

Intro: *Gabriel appeared to Daniel who prayed fervently about the end of Jewish exile.*

Ask: *How has God answered your prayers?*

1. During King Darius’ reign, Daniel studied Jeremiah’s prophecy about Jerusalem’s destruction (picture 4D.17).
 - *Jeremiah wrote that Jerusalem’s destruction would last seventy years . . . Daniel 9:1-2*
 - *Daniel pleaded with the Lord with fasting in sackcloth and ashes 9:3*
 - *He confessed his sins and the sins of Israel to the Lord 9:4-8*
 - *He acknowledged Israel’s lack of obedience and pleaded for mercy 9:9-10*
2. Daniel lamented over his people’s lack of obedience and pleaded for mercy and restoration.
 - *God fulfilled the prophecy about Jerusalem’s disaster 9:11-12*
 - *Daniel sought the favor of the Lord, giving attention to His truth 9:13*
 - *Daniel confirmed the Lord’s faithfulness and asked for mercy 9:15-19*

①



3. Gabriel appeared to Daniel and explained the prophecy about seventy “sevens.” (picture 4D.18)
 - *Gabriel appeared, giving Daniel encouragement and understanding . . . 9:20-22*
 - *After seventy “sevens,” sin would end, and eternal righteousness would begin . . . 9:23-24*
 - *The event that would start this time is the order to restore Jerusalem 9:25*
 - *For seven “sevens” Jerusalem and the Temple would be rebuilt (49 years) . . . 9:25*
4. Gabriel predicted the Messiah’s coming and explains last “seven”
 - *The Anointed One would be put to death after sixty-two “sevens” (434 years) . . . 9:26*
 - *During the last “seven” a season of war and desolation would come . . . 9:26-27*
 - *A ruler would forbid worship and desecrate the Temple until the last “seven” ends . . . 9:27*

Conclusion: *It is exciting to read what God prophesied hundreds of years before it took place. We get a sneak peak into the future. Daniel prayed humbly and sincerely for his people and God answered his prayer powerfully! Be humble, yet bold in your prayers, God listens to those who seek Him!*

②

Level 4D—World Ambassadors Lesson 9: Seventy “Sevens”

Big Idea: **God answers the prayers of people who seek Him.**

Daniel 9 [narrative form]

Intro: *Gabriel appeared to Daniel who prayed fervently about the end of Jewish exile.*

Ask: *How has God answered your prayers?*

See the Teacher Guide p.62 for the use of paperclips to illustrate this narrative. Read Daniel 9:1-3. *What was Daniel studying?* Read Jeremiah 29:10. *How long did Jeremiah prophesy that the Jewish captivity would last? How did Daniel respond when he realized the Jews might soon return to Jerusalem?* (picture 4D.17)

Read Daniel 9:4-19. *What does Daniel say about God at the opening of his prayer? Whose sins did Daniel confess?* Because the Jews didn’t seek God, Daniel prayed for his entire nation. Throughout this prayer Daniel pleads for God to have mercy and to forgive the Israelites. *As his prayer closes, instead of claiming righteousness, what does Daniel point to?* Daniel’s wanted God’s name to be revered and praised.

Read verses 20-27. (picture 4D.18) *Who came while Daniel was still praying? Why did Gabriel come to Daniel? How would you react if an angel appeared while you prayed?*

①



Gabriel gave Daniel a message that concerned the Jews and Jerusalem. It was about a time period of seventy “sevens.” *What were the purposes of this time period?* Each time period was seven years long. *What event started the seventy “sevens”?* Gabriel told Daniel that seven sets of “sevens” would come first. During this time, Jerusalem would be completely restored to the people. Then another sixty-two sets of sevens (434 years) would pass until the Anointed One came. *Who is the Anointed One? What does Daniel 9:26 say about the Anointed One? What happened to Jesus after He made the triumphal entry into Jerusalem?*

Today, we live in a time period that is waiting for the last group of seven years to begin. The seven year time period is sometimes called the “end times”—it will be the end of Satan’s reign on earth. The antichrist will make an agreement with Israel for three and a half years and then break the agreement. At the end of the seven years, Jesus will return to set up His kingdom. *Why do you think God revealed this future plan to Daniel?*

It is exciting to read what God prophesied hundreds of years before it took place. We get a sneak peak into the future. Daniel prayed humbly and sincerely for his people and God answered his prayer powerfully! Be humble, yet bold in your prayers, God listens to those who seek Him!

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Level 4D—World Ambassadors Lesson 10: Battle Stations!

Big Idea: **God wages a great battle against Satan—angels and people must choose sides.**

Daniel 10:1—11:35 [outline form]

Intro: *Daniel received a message about a great war and a vision to explain its meaning.*

Ask: *Why do you think God showed Daniel details about events affecting his people?*

1. During King Cyrus' reign Daniel received a vision of a great battle (picture 4D.19).
 - *Daniel prayed and fasted for understanding. Daniel 10:1-3*
 - *A mighty angel appeared to Daniel. 10:4-8*
 - *This angel and Michael had fought Persian demonic forces 10:9-13*
 - *He was sent to answer Daniel's prayer. 10:14*
2. The angel of the Lord encouraged Daniel and explained the details about the kings of Persia.
 - *Daniel was overcome with anguish over the vision he received. 10:15-17*
 - *The angel strengthened and encouraged Daniel 10:18-19*
 - *Four kings would arise in Persia; the fourth would attack Greece. . . 10:20—11:2*
 - *A mighty king would fall and his land would be divided 11:3-4*

1



3. The angel explained the kings of the south and the north and their failed alliances (picture 4D.20).
 - *The southern king's alliance with the north would be betrayed. 11:5-6*
 - *North and south would betray and attack each other in many wars. . . 11:10-19*
 - *A mighty king would die after taxing people to build his kingdom 11:20*
 - *A northern king would rise and plot false alliances with the south . . . 11:21-27*
4. The northern king would plunder the Temple and oppress many.
 - *The northern king defeated the south, plundering Israel as well 11:25-28*
 - *He attacked the south again and was scared off by a western army 11:29*
 - *In his anger he plundered and desecrated the Temple, persecuting Jews . . 11:30-31*
 - *God's people suffered they resisted and overthrew the evil king 11:32-35*

Conclusion: *Through the eyes of a warrior angel, God gave Daniel a personal view of the things that would affect his people, the Jews. Daniel fought this war too—on his knees praying and fasting. Isn't it exciting to know we are part of God's army? But we don't fight alone—God is on our side. You can do battle with the Lord against enemy forces by your prayers and your actions!*

2

Level 4D—World Ambassadors Lesson 10: Battle Stations!

Big Idea: **God wages a great battle against Satan—angels and people must choose sides.**

Daniel 10:1—11:35 [narrative form]

Intro: *Daniel received a message about a great war and a vision to explain its meaning.*

Ask: *Why do you think God showed Daniel details about events affecting his people?*

Daniel had been God's ambassador for a long time now. He'd seen the fall of the Babylonian empire. Now King Cyrus of Persia was in power.

Read Daniel 10:1-9. (picture 4D.19) This dream came about two years after the vision in Daniel 9. *What did Daniel do for three weeks? Why do you think Daniel mourned? The body of the man in his vision looked like chrysolite, a yellowish golden stone. How did the other people with Daniel react? Some Bible scholars believe this was a vision of Jesus. How did the vision affect Daniel?*

Read Daniel 10:10—11:1. An angel appeared and awakened Daniel. *When did the angel start to come to Daniel? Why was the angel delayed in coming to Daniel? The "prince" the angel speaks of is a demon who influenced the kingdom of Persia. Who came to help this angel?*

1



Why do you think Daniel was highly esteemed? Who would the angel engage in battle after the prince of Persia? Remember that Greece was the empire that conquered Persia. What book contained the information the angel gave to Daniel?

Read verses 2-20. (picture 4D.20) These predictions from the angel are very specific, and historical documents verify that the actual events took place exactly as predicted. For a complete outline, see DiscipleLand.com/downloads.

Read Daniel 11:21-35. Finally, the ruler Antiochus Epiphanes seized control of the north and tried to invade the south. *What would take place when this king tried to invade the south?* We know from history that when Antiochus tried to invade Egypt, a fleet of Roman ships controlled the region. On his disappointing return to Syria, Antiochus took out his anger on God's people and Jerusalem. When the Jews finally revolted, many were killed, sold as slaves, and carried off as captives.

Through the eyes of a warrior angel, God gave Daniel a personal view of the things that would affect his people, the Jews. Daniel fought this war too—on his knees praying and fasting. Isn't it exciting to know we are part of God's army? But we don't fight alone—God is on our side. You can do battle with the Lord against enemy forces by your prayers and your actions!

2

Level 4D—World Ambassadors Lesson 11: Things to Come

Big Idea: God directs earthly leaders to carry out His kingdom purposes.

Daniel 11:36—12:13 [outline form]

Intro: The angel in Daniel’s vision told of a future evil king and the last days.

Ask: How does it make you feel knowing that God controls the future?

- The angel gave Daniel more insights into the reign of an evil future king.
 - The evil king will exalt himself over all and refuse to honor God. . Daniel 11:36-37
 - The king will worship a false god and reward those who honor him . . 11:38-39
 - He will invade and control Egypt, Libya and Ethiopia. 11:40-43
 - He will attack many devout believers, yet he will die 11:44-45
- Michael, Israel’s protector, will rise up to deliver God’s people from great trouble (picture 4D.21).
 - Michael will deliver those in the Book of Life. 12:1
 - All will receive eternal reward or eternal condemnation 12:2
 - Those who are wise will shine and lead many to righteousness. 12:3
 - The angel told Daniel to seal up these words until the end 12:4

1



- Daniel asked the man in linen the timing and the outcome of these last things (picture 4D.22).
 - A man in linen was asked when the end would come 12:5-6
 - The man declared it would be a “time, times, and half a time” 12:7
 - Daniel did not understand and asked the outcome of these events 12:8
 - God has sealed the outcome; Daniel should go his way until the end . . 12:9-13

Conclusion: Daniel can be very exciting—and a bit confusing. However, there is one thing we need to remember—God tells us through Daniel that He controls the future. We need to be sure our names are written in the Book of Life. Next, we can chose to live to honor God with everything we are—God rewards our actions in heaven!

2

Level 4D—World Ambassadors Lesson 11: Things to Come

Big Idea: God directs earthly leaders to carry out His kingdom purposes.

Daniel 11:36—12:13 [narrative form]

Intro: The angel in Daniel’s vision told of a future evil king and the last days.

Ask: How does it make you feel knowing that God controls the future?

As we complete the book of Daniel, we will see how the angel finishes his message. What are some things the angel described in Daniel 11:1-35? Let’s find out what takes place next in God’s kingdom plan.

Read Daniel 11:36-45. Describe this ruler. What land will he invade? What other countries will he control? What will happen to him? We can trust God when He tells us the evil king will have an end.

Read Daniel 12:1-4. (picture 4D.21) What is Michael’s job? What does God promise His people? What is meant by “multitudes who sleep in the dust?” This describes a judgment day. What two judgments will God make? (picture 4D.22)

How will God determine who will be punished and who will be rewarded? What do we learn about the wise people? What will you do differently from others so that you

1



shine for Jesus? What is Daniel told to do with the prophecy? Why do you think he was given that command? Encourage responses.

Review the setting of Daniel’s vision by reading Daniel 10:4-6. Then read Daniel 12:5-13. Who did Daniel see? Daniel heard and saw the vision, but still didn’t fully understand it. What final question did Daniel ask? What answer did he receive? Daniel knew what he needed to know—that God was in control and things would take place as God had planned. What did the messenger tell Daniel to do about what he had seen and heard?

Reading and studying Daniel has been very exciting—and a bit confusing. However, there is one thing we need to remember—God tells us through Daniel that He controls the future. First, we need to be sure that our names are written in the Book of Life. Second, we can live in ways to earn eternal rewards that we will receive in heaven.

2

Level 4D—World Abassadors Lesson 12: Kingdom Ambassadors

Big Idea: **God’s kingdom will vanquish all earthly realms and will endure forever.**

Daniel 1-12 [outline form]

Intro: *Daniel was an exiled Israelite who received visions about future kingdoms.*

Ask: *What impressed you most about the events in the Book of Daniel?*

1. Review of chapters 1-4 (picture 4D.23).

- *God blesses those who choose to obey His Word Daniel 1*
- *God controls everything that will take place in the future 2*
- *God protects and rewards those who solely worship Him 3*
- *God shows mercy when He humbles those who walk in pride 4*

2. Review of chapters 5-8.

- *God punishes arrogant people who exalt themselves over others 5*
- *God rescues people who trust Him and do what is right 6*
- *In the end, God will overcome all His enemies and rule the entire earth 7*
- *God fulfills His prophecies about future events—to the smallest detail! 8*



3. Review of chapters 9-12 (picture 4D.24).

- *God answers the prayers of people who seek Him 9*
- *God wages a great battle against Satan; all must choose sides . . . 10:1—11:35*
- *God directs earthly leaders to carry out His purposes 11:36—12:13*

Conclusion: *Daniel survived some fascinating experiences. His life was “on the line” many different times. Through it all, Daniel remained faithful to God and obeyed the Bible. He was a “world ambassador” for the Lord. Think of yourself as a “world ambassador” who will remain faithful to God in any circumstance.*



Level 4D—World Abassadors Lesson 12: Kingdom Ambassadors

Big Idea: **God’s kingdom will vanquish all earthly realms and will endure forever.**

Daniel 1-12 [narrative form]

Intro: *Daniel was an exiled Israelite who received visions about future kingdoms.*

Ask: *What impressed you most about the events in the Book of Daniel?*

Here is an artist’s rendition of Daniel toward the end of his life. (picture 4D.23) *What do you think Daniel is doing in this picture?* We have nearly completed our study of Daniel and have probably learned more than we realize. The very last verse of the book of Daniel gives us some insight into Daniel’s future. Read Daniel 12:13. (picture 4D.24) *What is this picture all about?*

If you have access to all the Teaching Pictures for this quarter, put them in numerical order (according to chapters in the book of Daniel). If you don’t have the Teaching Pictures, simply follow the instructions below and exclude the references to the pictures.

Pair each child with a partner. Hand both Teaching Pictures for each chapter to



one pair (11 sets of pictures: #1-22). Ask the pairs to spend two or three minutes reviewing the Bible chapter together. Tell them that they are going to lead the rest of the class in a creative two-minute review of what took place in that chapter. They may want to use the Teaching Pictures, do a simple skit, make up a quiz, do an interview, sing the story, etc. Encourage the kids to be creative and to “ham it up” when appropriate. If you have a smaller class, assign each pair several chapters so you can complete all eleven lesson summaries.

Daniel survived some fascinating experiences. His life was “on the line” many different times. Through it all, Daniel remained faithful to God and obeyed the Bible. He was a “world ambassador” for the Lord. That’s exactly what God wants us to do. We can be His “world ambassadors,” too!

