

BOOK OF DANIEL



Courage in Culture

THE THEME

Courage in Culture

NOVEMBER MEMORY VERSE

“The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble.
He cares for those who trust in him.” **Nahum 1:7 - NIV**

NOVEMBER CHALLENGE VERSE

“When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.”

Isaiah 43:2 - ESV

NOVEMBER 12 - LIFE APPLICATION

“Trust that God knows the future.”

Note to Parents

From October through December, we are studying the **Book of Daniel** and how we can have “**Courage in Culture.**” The life application this week is “**Trust That God Knows the Future.**” Before talking with your kids, read **Daniel 7.**

In this chapter, Daniel has a disturbing dream. Remember, before this, Daniel had interpreted the dreams of King Nebuchadnezzar and King Belshazzar. Now, Daniel receives a vision from the Lord. This may be a difficult one to discuss with your kids, but it’s important for them to know that no matter what happens, **God knows the future and in the end He wins against evil.** And, we are winners along with Him because we are a part of His forever family!

DISCUSS:

1. **In the Book of Daniel, Daniel interpreted the dreams of two kings. Who were they?** (*King Nebuchadnezzar and King Belshazzar.*) **Did what Daniel interpreted actually happen?** (*Yes! King Nebuchadnezzar’s dreams came to happen and so did King Belshazzar’s dreams.*)
2. Now, in **Daniel 7**, Daniel has a vision from the Lord. (*Read through Daniel 7:1-7 with your kids. Before reading, tell them to listen as you read the descriptions of what Daniel saw.*) **What happened in Daniel 7:2?** (*The four winds of the great sea stirred up the sea.*)
3. Make a list on a large piece of paper as you discuss the **four beasts** that Daniel saw in his vision.
 - **Daniel 7:4:** “The first was like a lion and had eagles’ wings. Then as I looked its wings were plucked off, and it was lifted up from the ground and made to stand on two feet like a man, and the mind of a man was given to it.” (This beast represents Babylon.)
 - **Daniel 7:5:** “And behold, another beast, a second one, like a bear. It was raised up on one side. It had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth; and it was told, ‘Arise, devour much flesh.’ “ (This beast represents Medo Persia.)
 - **Daniel 7:6:** “After this I looked, and behold, another, like a leopard, with four wings of a bird on its back. And the beast had four heads, and

dominion was given to it.” (This beast represents Greece.)

- **Daniel 7:7:** ““After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, terrifying and dreadful and exceedingly strong. It had great iron teeth; it devoured and broke in pieces and stamped what was left with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns.” (This beast represents Rome.)

4. Next, Daniel looked at the horns of the fourth beast. **Talk about what happened to the ten horns in Daniel 7:8:**

“I considered the horns, and behold, there came up among them another horn, a little one, before which three of the first horns were plucked up by the roots. And behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking great things.”

5. Next, read **verses 9, 10** together. Daniel saw in his visions that thrones were placed and the Ancient of Days came and sat on His throne. **Who do you think He was?** (*The Lord God Almighty.*) **Describe how God looked in Daniel’s vision.**
6. In **verses 13, 14** someone else comes to the thrones. He is called the “son of man” and receives great power:

*“And to him was given dominion
and glory and a kingdom,
that all peoples, nations, and languages
should serve him;
his dominion is an everlasting dominion,
which shall not pass away,
and his kingdom one
that shall not be destroyed.”*

Who do you think the “son of man” is? (*Jesus!*)

7. Daniel talks about the fourth beast and the ten horns in **Daniel 7:23-25**. The ten horns are ten kingdoms that will arise, and then another after them that was different from the other horns and had great power. Read **verses 24-35:**

*“he shall be different from the former ones,
and shall put down three kings.
He shall speak words against the Most High,*

*and shall wear out the saints of the Most High,
and shall think to change the times and the law;
and they shall be given into his hand
for a time, times, and half a time.*

8. What finally happens after this one rules for a time? **Verses 26-27:**

*The court will sit in judgment, and his dominion will be taken away.
He will be destroyed and the Lord God Almighty will establish an
everlasting kingdom! All will serve and obey him!*

LIFE APPLICATION

Our Life Application for this week is: **“We Can Trust That God Knows the Future.”**

Kind of scary that Daniel had these visions, don't you think? But we can trust that God sometimes reveals things that are going to happen through visions and dreams, so that we are prepared for what is to come.

The four beasts represent the empires of Babylon, Medo Persia, Greece, and Rome. The ten horns represent countries or kingdoms that will one day have power. The horn that rises up and has great power represents one who will seem to be good, but who will actually be evil and have great dominion on the earth - until God takes his power away and establishes His heavenly kingdom, along with Jesus, the Son of Man.

God wins! And because we are part of His forever family, we are victors with Him! Even when bad things happen, we can trust that God has control and He knows what will happen.

FAMILY CHALLENGE

1. Have family members **sketch the beasts described in Daniel 7**. Then, talk about what God looked like in the vision and imagine the “son of man” coming before the throne of God.
2. Say: “There are so many things we don't know. **Is there anything that is beyond God's knowledge and wisdom? Is there anything that He is not able to do?** No, God can do all things and He is always with us. We can trust in Him. He is over all nations and all of history. He is sovereign over all things!

Even though there is much evil in the world, God will one day judge all who are evil and establish His kingdom to rule with Jesus forever and ever!

PRAYER

“Dear God, the world You made is beautiful and wonderful, but there are also bad things that happen because evil entered the world through sin. We are so thankful to know that You hold the future in Your hands and that we can trust You are over all things. Help us not to be anxious or afraid, but confident because we are Your people and You love us. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.”

