

Lesson 4: Persistence

Today's Bible Story

In the days when God's people had been conquered and carried off to the land of Babylon, some of the Hebrews were given places in the government by Darius, the King of Babylon. One of these Hebrews was Daniel, who pleased the king so much that he put him in charge of all his officials.

This made the other leaders in the kingdom envious and upset. They wanted to get rid of Daniel. So they came up with a plan to get Daniel in trouble. They knew that Daniel prayed to the LORD every day, so they had the King make praying to God against the law!

The officials came to Daniel's house and found him praying to his God, and they had him arrested. For his punishment they had him thrown into a den of lions.

The King was sad because he liked Daniel. But there was nothing he could do; the law was the law. The King went home so worried that he ate no food and wasn't able to sleep all night. At daybreak, the King got up and hurried to the lions' den. He called out: "Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God delivered you from the lions?"

Then the King heard Daniel's voice from inside the lion's den, saying, "My God sent his angel to protect me. He shut the lions' mouths so that they would not hurt me, because I was found blameless before the LORD. I have done nothing wrong."

King Darius was very relieved and pleased to find that Daniel was safe. He ordered his servants to release Daniel. Then the King wrote a proclamation: "Everyone in my kingdom must honor Daniel's God, for this God does amazing things and he has saved his servant Daniel from the lions!"



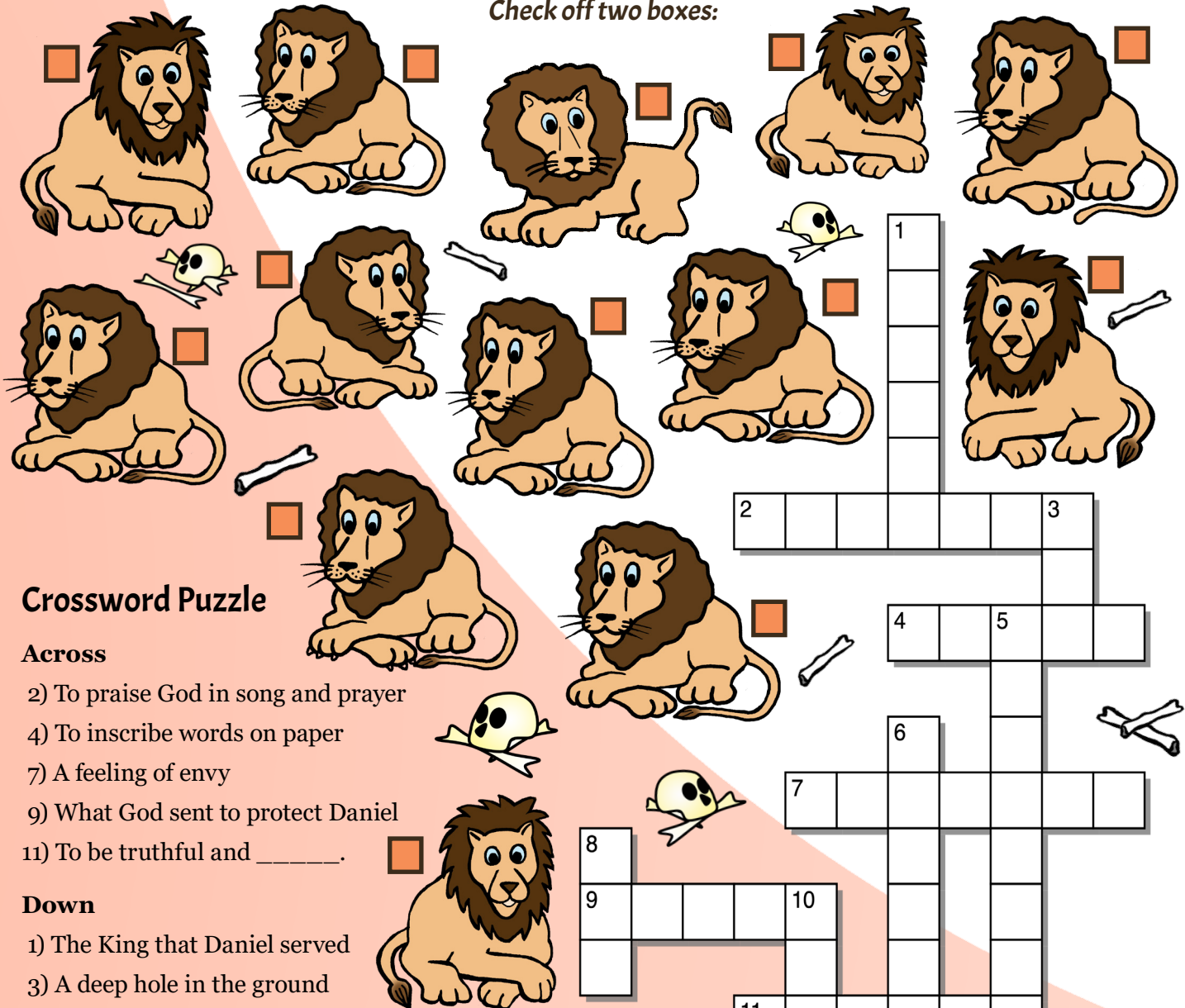
From Daniel 6:3-10, 13-23

Bible Rhyme

In Babylon so far away,
Daniel prayed to God each day.
Even when they told him stop,
Daniel kept on praying to God.
The leaders, they decided then
to throw him in the lions' den.
The King was sad for his young friend.
He worried it would be his end.
But God protected Daniel there.
The lions didn't touch a hair.
God had closed the lions' mouths;
the next day Dan walked safely out.

Daniel spent the night in a den full of lions. Which two lions below are identical?

Check off two boxes:



Crossword Puzzle

Across

- 2) To praise God in song and prayer
- 4) To inscribe words on paper
- 7) A feeling of envy
- 9) What God sent to protect Daniel
- 11) To be truthful and _____.

Down

- 1) The King that Daniel served
- 3) A deep hole in the ground
- 5) Not guilty of wrongdoing
- 6) When did the king come to check on Daniel?
- 8) What the men tricked the king into making
- 10) A big, wild cat

Discussion Questions

- 1) How did the jealous servants actually trick the king into punishing Daniel?
- 2) Why do you think Daniel didn't stop praying even when he knew he could get in trouble?
- 3) When was a time that you were in danger that you prayed for God's help? What happened?