

From Striving to Thriving...



Living in the Spirit.

**Daniel Fast
SUNDAY 24th January 2021**

Name: _____



Dear Parents/Guardian's

This is you Daniel Fast Sunday Session.

During these Sunday sessions we are encouraging the children to come together in any way that they can, whether it is as a family or via the Zoom calls on Sunday morning.

During the Zoom sessions we will talk about what they have gotten out of the week's session.

If you are gathering as a family, please encourage your children to share what they have experienced this week.

The Sunday sessions will have a take-away sum up of the teachings from the week. And an activity.

Thank you

-The Children's Team

READINGS:

Galatians 3

In this chapter of Galatians Paul teaches us about the importance of faith, the law, and relationship with God. We see that when we receive the revelation of the sacrifice of the cross and God's blessing and true power of the resurrection we should not go back to relying on our own power. Instead, we should keep relying and having faith in God's power. We should keep faith in God, even when we do not see the fruit of the promise. Like Abraham's story, we should keep faith.

We then see the importance of law. Whilst we should not be slaves to law and only do things to gain God's favour or not do things so we don't get punished, we should follow the law because God asks us to. We should want to do things for God out of love for Him, not because we have to. Obedience of the law, because you love God, is something that comes from relationship with God. The covenant that God made with Abraham is available to us because of this relationship, this means that if we keep the faith in God, and obey His laws because we love Him, and engage in a relationship with God, then we will receive the blessings God has for us.

Do you know that God wants to be in relationship with you?

Do you struggle to believe that God loves you unconditionally, and that you don't have to buy His love or forgiveness?

Talk to God about when you find it hard to believe that He wants you. Ask Him to help you obey out of love, and not duty.

Draw God talking to Abraham and making the covenant that says God will bless us and we will have faith in Him.

Then add yourself to the picture, showing that you are also part of the covenant agreement.

READINGS:

Daniel 3,4,5,6

In chapter 3 of Daniel we see that the king Nebuchadnezzar made a gold statue of himself and tell everyone in his kingdom to bow and worship it. Daniel's friends; Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused because God says to worship no one or anything but Him. The king then threw them in a fiery furnace because they refused to obey his law. Whilst they were in the furnace the guards died because of the heat, but when the king looked into the fire he saw four men. He called Daniel's friends out and saw they were perfectly fine. The king then said that the nations must praise and worship God because no other gods could save his people like God did.

In Daniel 4 we see another dream that Nebuchadnezzar has. In this dream a tree is raised up and the fruit is great and the animals live amongst it. Then the tree is cut down and the fruit is scattered and the animals run away. Daniel tells the king that he is the tree and that God has raised him to be great. But he has become proud so God will cut him down and humble Him. God will keep him safe but his kingdom will be scattered. This is the price he has paid for his ego, being unkind to the poor, and believing in his power and glory above God. This dream then came true.

In Daniel 5 we see a new king, Belshazzar who is a descendant of one of Nebuchadnezzars successors. We see that the first dream Nebuchadnezzar had comes to life. Belshazzar is the legs made of iron, the ruler of the kingdom before the statue split into clay and iron. During his reign Belshazzar worship other gods. One day whilst throwing a part he had everyone drink from the holy cup that Nebuchadnezzar had taken from God's temple in Jerusalem, when He took Daniel and his friends. When he did this a message from God appeared on the wall saying the king's days had been counted and that he had been found not good. He knew the struggles of Nebuchadnezzar and the teaching from God about being humble and the power of God, yet he continued to disobey and disrespect God. That night the king died and the kingdom was divided between the Medes and the Persians.

In Daniel 6 Daniel is raised into a high position by king Darius, this is because he is the best of the best because of God. This caused jealousy and other leaders to make the king set a law to worship only him. Then they told him that Daniel was not obeying because they knew he would not worship anyone except God. The king had to throw Daniel to the lions. In the den the king, who liked Daniel, told him that he hoped God would save him. God did save Daniel and so the king raised him to great power. And made a new law that everyone would worship and respect God.

Draw a scene from one of
the stories from Daniel
this week.

Do you worship and respect
God and only God?

Is there times where you
follow what someone else is
saying that goes against
what God is saying.

Ask God to help you obey and
worship Him and only Him. And
to give your time to Him
above other things.