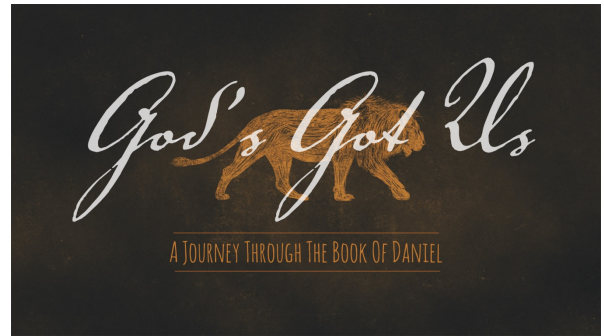




NorthRidge Families,

For the next 12 weeks as a church we will be learning lessons from the Book of Daniel. I am so excited because Daniel is one of my favorite books in the Bible. It is full of action, adventure and suspense that so beautifully points to the Good News of God's love and power over each situation in which we find ourselves.



Memory Verse

You can find the list of all the winter memory verses on the website or on the handout in the Spotlight bin located outside the church. This month we are working on Deuteronomy 31:8.

CoveKids	TreasureLand
<p>Deuteronomy 31:8a</p> <p>"The LORD himself will go ahead of you. He will be with you. He will never leave you."</p>	<p>Deuteronomy 31:8</p> <p>"The LORD himself will go ahead of you. He will be with you. He will never leave you. He'll never desert you. So don't be afraid. Don't lose hope"</p>

Family Question & Activity

I am including a different family question and activity for each week. You may want to talk about it as a family while driving in the car, having a meal at the table or in a nightly devotion time.

READ	ACTIVITY
<p>January 3, 2021 Daniel 1: God's Got Us... When we feel alone</p>	
<p>Read Daniel 1 from the Bible (your child's or yours, though you may want to shorten it or act it out if you have little ones). Daniel and his friends were taken to a faraway country away from their homes and families. How do you think they felt? How did God help them stand strong when they felt alone?</p>	<p>Build a fort and talk about how God is our fortress and strength even when it seems everything outside is hard or wrong (like Daniel and his friends being taken to a faraway land). We have nothing to fear because God is with us, covering us with his love. Review Deuteronomy 31:8.</p>
<p>January 10, 2021 Daniel 2: God's Got Us...When the situation seems too hard</p>	
<p>Read Daniel 2:1-12; 17-19 Daniel and his friends are up against an impossible task- impossible for humans anyway! But NOT for God!!!! Talk about a time that you were faced with a hard/impossible situation. What happened? How did Daniel handle the impossible task he had before him?</p>	<p>Do some roll play... this may seem too young for your older kids but trust me- they need it too! As they practice responding to hard situations it will become more automatic for them when they are faced with the real situation. Come up with hard, difficult, or even impossible situations your kids may face. It might be a friend wanting them to do something they know they shouldn't, or someone at school challenging them, saying there is no God. Talk through the response you child should have... starting with prayer, just like Daniel.</p>



READ	ACTIVITY
January 17, 2021	
Daniel 3: God's Got Us...When we have to stand up for Him	
<p>Read Daniel 3 (most kid's Bibles have this story- In the fiery furnace) Daniel's three friends had a very hard decision to make- they chose to stay true to the one true God and not bow to the king's statue. But that decision made the king very mad and they were thrown into the fiery furnace. Daniel's three friends knew that their God was able to save them, but they said even if he didn't, they would not worship anything other than the one true God. What are the fiery trials you are facing in your life right now? Someone sick...School problems...how can you look to God for your strength in those trials?</p>	<p>Make cookies. What does heat do to the cookie dough? The heat changes the dough to a cookie makes it bakes it. What do hard times do to our faith? If we draw close to God, the heat will build our faith and make it stronger!</p>
January 24, 2021	
Daniel 4: God's Got Us... When we are proud and don't give Him the credit.	
<p>Read Daniel 4:19-37 As you read have your kids draw or act it out. King Nebuchadnezzar was proud and refused to give God the credit for his empire and all the good things God had blessed him with. Every sin is rooted in pride. Think of different sins we commit and then talk as a family about how those sins are rooted in pride. For little kids you may want to talk about how we give the credit to God and not take it for ourselves.</p>	<p>Walk around your house like King Nebuchadnezzar did- only give God the credit and praise for everything he has blessed you with. For older kids, encourage them to think of the not physical gifts God has given them, like talents or abilities. One way we can give God the credit is by serving others with the gifts he has given us.</p>
January 31, 2021	
Daniel 5: God's Got Us...When we disrespect Him	
<p>Read Daniel 5 (some kid's Bibles have this story; the writing on the wall) A new king took over after Nebuchadnezzar and he was disrespectful to God. He threw a party and brought out the holy cups for the people to drink out of. God set aside those cups for holy purposes and he was not happy that they were using them so disrespectfully. If you believe in Jesus as your Lord and Savior, you are set apart as holy. In what ways do you not show respect for God? How should we change our behavior and actions so that we are respectful to the things God has called holy?</p>	<p>Pull out some dishes, some that are super special and some that are not. Talk about how our special dishes we use for special purposes and our other dishes (maybe even paper plates- that we just use and throw away) are not special. God wants us to treat the people and things special that he calls holy this includes his church, the Bible, and yourself. What other things can you think of?</p>

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