

WEEK 5 LESSON GUIDE



BIG IDEA

I don't know the future but I know God is with me!

BIBLE

Daniel's Dream:
Daniel 7

WELCOME TIME

MUSIC | Sing and Roar!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** You can lead kids in worship with any songs of your choice, but here are some suggestions that go along with this month's theme. Make sure you have purchased any licenses required to play or perform these songs. For more information, [read this!](#)
 - "I'm Trusting You" (Lifetree Kids)
 - "Not Afraid" (Rend Co. Kids)
 - "With Me Every Day" (Yancy)
 - "Through It All" (Lifetree Kids)
 - "What You're Made For" (Lifeway Music)

ACTIVITY | Lions, Bears, and Leopards

- Welcome back to the Babylon Zoo! It has been so fun having you here with us! It's our last day together at the zoo and there's still so much I want to show you!
- All of these animals live here at the Babylon Zoo, and make some big noises! Are you ready to Hear Me Roar?
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Review the following animal sounds with the children: lion (roar), bear (growl), and leopard (meow). Explain that you will hold up a picture of an animal and the children must make that sound.
- In today's Bible story, you'll hear about a dream Daniel had about a lion, a bear, and a leopard.

ACTIVITY | Land or Sea?

- Here at the Babylon Zoo, we have animals that live in all places. Some live in the forest while some in the ocean. Some live in cold places and some live in very hot places.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Name an animal. Have the children move to one side of the room if they think the animal lives on land or move to the other side of the room if they think the animal lives in the sea. Examples of land animals: tiger, elephant, deer, giraffe. Examples of sea animals: crab, fish, whale, shark
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Use [Little People Zoo Friend figures](#) and have the children sort them.
- In today's Bible story, you'll hear about a dream that Daniel had about some strange animals that lived on land.

STORY TIME

SCRIPTURE | Daniel 7 (Daniel's Dream)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Tell the story of Daniel 7 as though you're guiding kids through an exhibit at the Babylon Zoo, with the help of your [hand puppet friend Emmy the Elephant](#) (other hand puppets in pack are used for Weeks 1–3). Remain in the zookeeper character.
- It's been so fun showing you around Babylon Zoo and introducing you to some of my animal friends!
- It's been a real dream come true!
- *[Puppet appears sleeping and snoring loudly.]*
 - Do you hear that? It sounds like someone is sleeping!
 - I think it's my friend, Emmy the Elephant. Emmy . . . Emmy . . . Emmy . . .
- *[Puppet wakes up and yawns]* Oh hi! I must have dozed off! I was having the best dream. You know, Daniel, who we've been learning about, had a dream too. Would you like to hear it?
 - *[Read Daniel 7 from a preschool Bible or a preschool-friendly translation.]*
- That was a pretty odd dream, right? Daniel's dream had four animals. Let's see if we can remember what they looked like.
 - The first animal looked like a lion but it had what? Wings like an eagle!
 - Then there was a bear with vicious looking teeth.
 - The third one was a leopard with wings and four heads.
 - Then the final, most frightful of all, there was a lion-like animal that had horns. **Do you remember how many?** That's right, ten!
- Daniel didn't understand what it all meant, but an angel helped him. This dream was a message to Daniel and to all of God's people to hang on. Even though times were hard, one day, God would make it all better! Daniel's dream meant that God was with him and everyone!
- Grownups can help us understand things that might be confusing. In the same way, God can help us too!
- God also knows what will happen tomorrow and the next day.
- **I don't know the future but I know God is with me!**

BIG IDEA | I don't know the future but I know God is with me!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** On a slip of paper, write today's Big Idea and place the paper in an envelope. Keep the envelope in a place that's easy for today's hand puppet to pick up when the time comes to reveal the Big Idea.
- Sometimes things happen that we don't understand.
- We don't have to know it all because God is always with us! That's what our Big Idea is about today.
- Emmy, we need our last envelope, please!
- *[Have the kids do a drumroll on their legs. Look over at Emmy, who's holding an envelope in her mouth.]*
- Thank you, Emmy!
- *[Open the envelope and read the Big Idea aloud.]* **I don't know the future but I know God is with me!**
- Stand up and let's say this together:
 - **I don't** (shake head from side to side)
 - **know the future** (bring right hand up and push it away from you)
 - **but I know** (bring right pointer finger up to right side of forehead)
 - **God** (point up)
 - **is with me!** (use thumbs to point to self)

VIDEO | Hear Me Roar, Episode 5

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's episode of [Cali's World](#).

ACTIVITY | Where Will It Land?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Show the children the game spinner. Ask each child, one at a time, which color they think the spinner will land on when you spin it.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Gather preschool building blocks in a few different colors, being sure to have three of each color. Set up different color patterns and then have the children copy them.
- Sometimes you guessed the right color.
- Sometimes you guessed the wrong color.
- None of us know all of the answers all of the time.
- **I don't know the future but I know God is with me!**

PRAYER

- Dear God, thank you for knowing what will happen in the future. Help us to always remember that you are with us. Amen.

SHARING TIME

ACTIVITY | Dream Animals

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give the children an assortment of animal-shaped snacks to enjoy. Options might include Teddy Grahams, Annie's Cheddar Bunnies, and Tiger Paws.
- **Which zoo animal do you think is the strongest? Fastest? Smartest? Cutest?**
- **If you could be any zoo animal, what would you be?**

ACTIVITY | Circle Time

- Daniel had a strange dream while he was asleep.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Start the activity by giving one child the pillow and have them pass it four times. The child who is left holding it will answer a question. That child will then pass the pillow four times and the next child will answer a question. Play continues until all questions have been answered.
- **How many animals did Daniel see in his dream?**
- **What animals did he see?**
- **Who helped Daniel understand his dream?**
- **Who can help you when you don't understand something?**

ACTIVITY | Future Me

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each child a person cutout. Set out the crayons or washable markers. Ask the children to think about what they want to be when they grow up. (Be prepared to offer a few suggestions.) Explain that they will use the crayons or markers to draw features and clothes on their person to look like what they want to be.
- Do you know what you want to be when you grow up?
- You might grow up to be what you want or something different.
- Only God knows!
- **I don't know the future but I know God is with me!**

MEMORY VERSE | Nahum 1:7 (NIV)

- **"The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him."**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Lead the children in saying the verse in a sleepy voice and then in a wide-awake voice.

PLAY TIME

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print and distribute the coloring page along with crayons or markers. As the kids color, you can review today's Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse.

ACTIVITY | Unexpected

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Provide kids with a game of unexpected turns to remind them of today's Big Idea, like [Pop Up Pirate](#), [Shark Bite](#), or [Yeti in my Spaghetti](#).

ACTIVITY | Puppet Show

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set out the puppets used to tell each week's Bible story this month for the kids to enjoy. Start the activity by giving one child the pillow and have them pass it four times. The child who is left holding it will answer a question. That child will then pass the pillow four times and the next child will answer a question. Play continues until all questions have been answered.