

“EPIC” - LESSON 6

“Whose Power Am I Depending On?”

Main Focus:

We must be filled with God's power daily.



Power Verse:

“Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort?”
– Galatians 3:3 (NIV)



Whatchagaddaknow:

“Every Single Hour I Depend On God's Power!”

LEADER'S INFO

When we first become a Christian, we love spending time with God. We can't even imagine doing anything without praying first. We just want to spend time with Him and depend on Him for everything.

The longer we serve God, we tend to get busy. We forget that we **NEED** God's power every single day. We begin to become self-reliant instead of God-reliant. When we do this, we end up getting ourselves in a load of trouble.

In this lesson, the children will learn from the story of Daniel and the Lion's Den that we must depend on God's power every single day.

We must spend time with Him and receive from Him so that we can accomplish the things He wants to do in our lives. We need God's power every single day!



“The Spark” Intro Video

“Powered Up”



“Whatchagaddaknow” Video

Big Ray teaches “Whatchagaddaknow”



Character Skit

“Wacky Wally”



Offering Time



Game Time!

“Who Has The Power?”



Bible Story

“Daniel In The Lion's Den”



Power Verse Video

“Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort?”

– Galatians 3:3 (NIV)



Call To Action

“Whose Power Am I Depending On?”



Rewind!

Review Game



Small Group Experience

Main Focus:

We must be filled with God's power daily.



Power Verse:

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– Galatians 3:3 (NIV)



Whatchagaddaknow:

“Every Single Hour I Depend On God's Power!”

Lesson 6 Materials Needed:

“The Spark” Intro Video

- “Lesson 6 - The Spark” Intro Video

“Whatchagaddaknow” Video

- “Whatchagaddaknow” Teaching Video
- “Whatchagaddaknow” Trigger Video

Character Skit

- “Wacky Wally” Theme Graphic/Music

Offering Time

- “Offering Time” Bumper Video

Game Time!

- “Game Time!” Bumper Video
- “Who Has The Power?” Graphic
- 12 Heavy Books

Bible Story

- “Daniel In The Lion's Den” Graphics

Power Verse Video

- “Lesson 6 Power Verse” Video

Call To Action

- “Whose Power Am I Depending On?” Graphics
- A Baseball Bat
- A Toy Gun
- A Sword
- A Large Lamp

Rewind!

- “REWIND!” Bumper Video
- “REWIND!” Lesson 6 Graphics

Small Group Experience

- A Way To Keep Score
- Ping Pong Balls
- Open Space
- Masking Tape
- Index Cards
- Plastic Straws
- Galatians 3:3 Print Piece
- Pens, Pencils, Or Markers

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Game Time!

“Who Has The Power?”

Bible Story

“Daniel In The Lion's Den”

Power Verse Video

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Review Game

Small Group Experience



Introduction to “The Spark” Intro Video

Leader: Hey, kids! We are finishing up our series called “EPIC.” Today, we are definitely going to be learning from one of the most mind-blowing Bible Stories ever!

Before we get into it, I have a question for you. Have you ever tried to lift something, but you found out you just weren’t strong enough? (allow response) It’s kind of a bummer, huh? Now, imagine that you couldn’t lift something so you ask a really strong friend to help you. They come over to help you, and BOOM! You are able to lift it with their help. Pretty cool, huh?

OK, now I want you to imagine that you come across the same thing as before. You know you needed help from your friend before, but you decide that you can lift it by yourself this time. Is that a smart thing to try to do? (allow response) Of course not! If you needed your friend’s help before, what makes you think you can do it by yourself now?

Keep that in mind as you watch this video...

(play “The Spark - Intro Video Lesson 6”)

Leader: We should always remember that our human strength and wisdom only goes so far. God’s strength is unlimited. He has more power, strength, and wisdom than we could ever imagine.

There is a pretty important question asked in Galatians 3:3. *“Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort?”*

This question is one that we must all ask ourselves every single day. Sometimes we get so busy that we don’t take the time to ask God for help. We think that we can handle this world and all of its challenges on our own. But, why would we ever want to depend on our own strength when we could depend on God?

Instead of depending on our own human effort, we must choose daily to be filled with God’s power and strength. That’s what we are going to be learning about today. Right now, it’s time to find out Whatchagaddaknow!

(play “Whatchagaddaknow” Teaching Video)



CHARACTER SKIT

Character: “Wacky Wally” *(a mega-nerd who dreams of one day becoming a superhero! He usually wears a cape.)*

Wally: *(Enters with an inflatable hammer and tries to “fix” something onstage but misses; frustrated)* Ugh! This is simply unacceptable! Come on! Why won’t you cooperate? *(Lifts hammer to swing again)*

Leader: *(Frantic)* Wally! What are you doing with that inflatable hammer?

Wally: What does it look like? I’m fixing this thingy that’s broken! This hammer, combined with my super strength, should be more than enough to fix it.

Leader: That’s certainly a unique approach! But tell me, whose power are you really depending on here?

Wally: *(Confidently)* My own, of course! I’m Wacky Wally! I can fix anything! After all, I am a superhero! And right now, I am determined to fix this... thingy! *(Turns back to hammer again)*

Leader: *(Grabbing hammer)* Determination is great, but what happens when things get tough? Your power probably won’t be enough to get you through it. Have you tried depending on God’s power?

Wally: God’s power? Pfft! What do I need that for?

Leader: Well, sometimes we need more than our own efforts. Remember that time you tried to build that treehouse?

Wally: *(Embarrassed)* Oh, don’t remind me! It turned into a bird’s nest instead!

Leader: *(Chuckling)* Exactly! In that tough situation, you relied on your strength, and it didn’t work out.

Wally: You’re right. I should’ve just asked for help.

Leader: That’s right! And God’s power is like a supercharged battery. It can help you do things you never thought possible!

Wally: *(Enthusiastically)* Supercharged battery? Now you’re talking my language!

Leader: Imagine if you plugged into God’s power instead of just swinging inflatable hammers!

Wally: So, you’re saying I need super tools instead of inflatable ones?

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CHARACTER SKIT

(Continued)

Leader: (Laughing) Well, yeah! But the super tools you need are the ones that involve God!

Wally: Where do I find them? Do you think I need an extension cord? I can get one... where is the plug? I NEED POWER HERE!

Leader: (Chuckling) No extension cord needed! It's about prayer, obedience, and depending on God to help you, even when you're trying to fix a tough thingy.

Wally: So, if I pray and ask for help, I can get this thingy fixed?

Leader: Absolutely! And who knows? You might even inspire others to depend on God's power, too!

Wally: (Grinning) Alright! Let's give it a try! (Closes eyes) Lord, please help me! This thingy won't work, and I'm not strong enough to fix it. I need your power!

Leader: That's a start, Wally! Just remember to trust that God's timing is perfect.

Wally: (Opens one eye) Timing? But I want to fix this now!

Leader: Patience, my friend! Sometimes, it takes a little time to see the results of God's power.

Wally: Fine. I will wait and let God work while I... (holds up the inflatable hammer)... just swing this around for fun? Can I bonk some kids on the head with it?

Leader: (Laughing) No, Wally. No bonking kid's heads! Just let God handle the heavy lifting.

Wally: (Excitedly) Alright! I'm ready! (Looks at a non-existent watch) Oh my! I gotta go, but I will go in God's power! I'll see you later, citizens! Until then, it's Up, up, and A WACKY WALLY WAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAYYY! (Hits everything he can with the inflatable hammer as he is leaving)

(EXITS WHILE THEME MUSIC PLAYS)



GAME TIME

“Who Has The Power?”

Items Needed For Game:

12 heavy books

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Preparation:

None

.....

How To Play:

Divide the room into two teams. Have each team choose one person to represent them. It can be a girl or a boy, but they need to choose the representative they think has the most strength. Have the two participants stretch their arms straight out, with their hands are at shoulder level. The goal is to see who can keep their arms up, even with their shoulders, the longest. Tell them that every fifteen seconds, you will make it harder by adding a book to each hand.

After the first fifteen seconds, place a book in both the right and left hands of each participant. Wait another fifteen seconds, then add another book. Continue this until each participant has three books in each hand. The last player to drop their arms WINS!



Bible Story

“Daniel In The Lion’s Den”

Materials Needed:

The graphic slides for Lesson 6; begin with the slide that says “Bible Story”; follow the instructions below, changing the slides to follow along with the story (*as shown*)

Preparation:

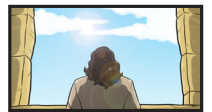
Familiarize yourself with the story in Daniel 6; have your open Bible in your hands as you tell the story

The Story:

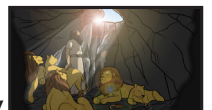
In today’s Bible Story, we continue in Daniel chapter 6. Daniel was a solid man of God who always did right. The king was very impressed by him and gave him special treatment. The king’s other officials were very jealous of Daniel, so they came up with a plan to get him in trouble. They knew the only way they could get him was to set a trap that had to do with his love of and devotion to God.



You see, Daniel was a man of character. He prayed three times a day, giving thanks to God. The king’s officials knew that Daniel was a man of prayer, so they told the king to make a new law that nobody was allowed to pray to anyone but the king. (show pic) The king thought that was a great idea, so he did just that. The punishment for breaking this rule was that the person would have to be thrown into the lion’s den. The king’s officials knew that Daniel would not obey this rule. And they were right.



(show pic) When Daniel learned that the law had been signed, he went home and knelt down in his upstairs room, just as he usually did. Why would Daniel break the king’s law? Because he knew that although obeying the king was important, obeying God was even more important. When the king’s officials arrived at Daniel’s house, they found him praying and asking God for help. Daniel knew he didn’t have the strength to survive the night with the lions; that’s why he was praying for God’s help.



So Daniel was arrested and brought before the king. Was that fair? No, of course not! But the king had no choice but to order Daniel thrown into the lion’s den. (show pic) And that’s exactly what happened. Daniel was thrown into the lion’s den, and a stone was rolled over the entrance, locking him in. The Bible doesn’t tell us everything that happened that night. We don’t know exactly what Daniel did, but one thing is for sure- he was depending on GOD for his rescue, not himself.

The next morning, the king ran down to have the stone rolled away. He yelled out to Daniel, “Daniel, was your God able to save you?” Daniel answered, “Long live the king.” (show pic) How EPIC is that? Daniel survived a night with the lions! Because Daniel depended on God, he was protected!

Today, in your lesson, you will learn that when you depend on God, you will experience something EPIC!



Call To Action

“Whose Power Am I Depending On?”

Materials Needed:

The “Whose Power Am I Depending On?” graphics; A baseball bat; A toy gun; A sword; a large lamp

Preparation:

Begin with the slide titled “Whose Power Am I Depending On?”;



The Message: *(title slide)*

Today, we learned a story most of you have probably heard before. Maybe it was in Sunday School or church or at home with your parents. But most of you had probably heard of the story of “Daniel In The Lion’s Den.” You’ve heard that he survived an entire night in a den of hungry lions and was never eaten - not even scratched. You might have thought, “WOW! How did he do it? How did he survive a night with the lions?”

He probably had something like this, huh? *(hold up the baseball bat)* No - that would only make the lions mad. He probably survived a night with lions by using something like this. *(hold up the toy gun)* No - guns weren’t invented yet. I know! Perhaps he used something like THIS. *(hold up the sword)* Nope! He didn’t use any of that stuff to survive. You see, all of that stuff would have meant he was depending on his own power to survive. But that is not what he did.

Daniel was a solid man of God who always did right. Daniel was a man of character. He depended on God’s power to get him through that lion’s den. How did he do it? How did he manage to depend on God in a moment like that? The same way you and I can. The Bible says that Daniel “*prayed three times a day...giving thanks to his God.*” That’s one of the things in Daniel’s life that helped him. It’s something we should also do:



Pray *(slide)*

Daniel prayed every day. We should also make it a habit to pray - not just over our food, but talking to God and letting Him talk to us in our hearts. It’s what builds godly character in our lives. It certainly helped Daniel prepare for the night with the lions.

The Bible says that when Daniel learned that the law had been signed that no one could pray to anyone but the king, he went home and prayed. Why would Daniel break the king’s law? Because he knew that although obeying the king was important, obeying God was even more important. That is something we need to do....

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Call To Action *(Continued)*



Obey *(slide)*

Daniel knew it was so important to obey God. That's why he went ahead and prayed even though it was against the law. He was obeying God. We need to do the same thing. When everyone else is doing wrong, we need to do right. We need to obey God, even when everyone else is sinning.

Sometimes that can be difficult! We want to fit in and be popular. We want to do what everyone else is doing. It can be tough to do right in those situations in our own strength, but that's why we have God's help. That is why we should never depend on our own strength and power. Instead, we must...



Depend On God *(slide)*

When the king's officials arrived at Daniel's house, they found him praying and asking God for help. Daniel knew he didn't have the strength to survive the night with the lions; that's why he was praying for God's help. He knew he couldn't depend on his own power. He had to depend on God. Depending on his own power would have been foolish.

(hold up the lamp, make sure it is unplugged) This is a wonderful looking lamp, huh? Can anyone tell me what lamps are used for? *(allow response)* That's right! To light up a room. Let's see how bright this lamp is. *(turn the switch - of course the light won't come on)* Hmmmm. This isn't right. This is a lamp. It's supposed to shine light. Why is this thing not shining? *(play around with it for a little bit until the kids point out that it isn't plugged in)* Ahh-hhh, that's right! On its own, this lamp can't shine. It needs power. That's kind of like us trying to do things on our own without God. We need to *(plug the lamp in while you speak)* plug into God's power, and then we can *(turn the switch on)* shine the light of Jesus to the world!

Listen, boys and girls—Daniel didn't wait until he was thrown into the lion's den to start depending on God. He had made that choice long before the lions ever showed up. Every single day, Daniel chose to pray, obey, and depend on God—and when things got scary, he was ready. And you know what? You can be ready, too! Choose to Pray, Obey, and Depend on God - every single day!

ALTAR RESPONSE: *(play soft music)*

Pray with your children that they would choose to depend on God today and every day. Help them make the decision to pray, obey, and depend on God for help!

**Materials Needed:**

“REWIND!” Lesson 6 Graphics; “REWIND!” Bumper Video

Preparation:

Play the “REWIND!” Bumper Video; Begin with the slide titled “REWIND!”; there is a slide for each question

1. Whatchagaddaknow today?

Answer: “Every Single Hour I Depend On God’s Power!”

2. Who was the man who was thrown into the lion’s den?

Answer: Daniel

3. True or False: Daniel was thrown into the lion’s den because he did something bad.

Answer: False

4. Did Daniel break the king’s rule?

Answer: Yes

5. What did Daniel pray for?

Answer: God’s Help

6. What did Daniel say when he got out of the lion’s den?

Answer: “Long Live The King.”

7. According to our lesson today, you must “_____.”

Answer: Pray

8. According to our lesson today, you must “_____.”

Answer: Obey

9. According to our lesson today, you must “_____ On God.”

Answer: Depend

10. Where was our Power Verse found?

Answer: Galatians 3:3