



## LESSON 1 SNAPSHOT

**BOTTOM LINE:**

Whatever obstacles we face, God is in control.

**OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will learn, "I can keep my cool because God is in control."

**KEY PASSAGE:**

Daniel 6:10-27, Daniel in the Den of Lions

**MEMORY VERSE:**

"A person with a bad temper stirs up conflict. But a person who is patient calms things down." Proverbs 15:18 (NIRV)

**SUMMARY:**

We can lose our cool when we don't know what is going to happen next. We only see the tip of the iceberg and have no idea what is going on below. Daniel didn't know what was going to happen when he was thrown into the den of lions, but he knew that God was in control, so he kept his cool.

**SIMPLE PRAYER:**

*Dear God,*

*We don't know what will happen tomorrow, but we know you are in control.*

*In Jesus' name,  
Amen*



## MEMORY VERSE

*"A person with a bad temper stirs up conflict. But a person who is patient calms things down." Proverbs 15:18 (NIRV)*

*"A hot-tempered person stirs up conflict, but the one who is patient calms a quarrel." Proverbs 15:18 (NIV)*

*"A hot-tempered person starts fights; a cool-tempered person stops them." Proverbs 15:18 (NLT)*

*"A wrathful man stirreth up strife: but he that is slow to anger appeaseth strife." Proverbs 15:18 (KJV)*

### **LARGE GROUP:**

Divide the room into girls and boys. Have the boys read the verse aloud, then have the girls read it aloud. Who can read the loudest?

### **SMALL GROUP:**

Give all the kids a Bible. Then after you read the verse, give them the reference and see who can find it first in their Bible.



## SKIT PAGE 1

### **POLAR BEAR AND PENGUIN: CONTROL**

#### **ITEMS NEEDED:**

Polar bear puppet or costume  
Penguin puppet or costume  
The stage should be a frozen, wintry wonderland

#### **CHARACTER BREAKDOWN:**

2 Flexible

#### **CHARACTERS:**

Polar Bear - A laid back sort of guy (or girl)  
Penguin - One nervous bird

*Penguin enters, looking flustered.*

PENGUIN: No, no, no. I don't recognize this area either. I am most definitely lost. I don't like not knowing what's going on. No control. I do not like it one bit.

Penguin sees something in the distance.

PENGUIN: Oh, someone else is coming. Maybe they can help me find my way.

Polar Bear enters, chill.

PENGUIN: Hello.

POLAR BEAR: Hey. How's it going?

PENGUIN: Do you know where we are?

POLAR BEAR: Of course.

PENGUIN: Great. Where are we?

POLAR BEAR: We're right here.

PENGUIN: But where is here? I think we may be lost.

POLAR BEAR: No way. I'm never lost.



## SKIT PAGE 2

PENGUIN: So you know where you're going?

POLAR BEAR: Yep. Wherever I end up is where I'm going. It's all chill.

PENGUIN: Wait a minute. Are you a polar bear?

POLAR BEAR: At your service. And you're a penguin. That must be cool.

PENGUIN: But polar bears only live near the North Pole and penguins only live near the South Pole. At least one of us is very lost.

POLAR BEAR: Whoa! No need for us to lose our cool though.

PENGUIN: How can you say that? I hate not knowing all the answers. I can't handle not being in control. How can you keep your cool right now?

POLAR BEAR: I can keep my cool because God is in control. I don't need to have all the answers because I know He does.

PENGUIN: God is in control. . . God is in control. So I don't have to lose my cool, even though I'm lost and all alone.

POLAR BEAR: But you're not all alone, penguin. I'm here with you. And God is here with both of us. He's got this.

PENGUIN: He's got this. So, I guess I can just sit back and chill.

POLAR BEAR: Oh man, now you're speaking my language.  
Penguin and Polar Bear kick back and relax.

*End.*





## OBJECT LESSON OR KIDS SERMON

### ITEMS NEEDED:

Ice Cubes

Give an ice cube to each kid that wants one. The instructions are to melt the ice cube as fast as possible without leaving the room. Kids must have the ice cube in their hand at all times.

These ice cubes remind us that we are not always in control. We can blow on them, rub them between our hands, but we still can't control how fast they melt. And we're not even in control of how long we can hold them. Our hands get too cold and we have to move the ice cube from one hand to the other. We don't have control up against the ice cube.

There are many areas in life where we aren't in control. We face problems at home, at school, with our friends. Sometimes we don't know what to do. We don't know what we will face tomorrow.

But we don't have to lose our cool. We can stay chill. Because we know that God is in control. Always. God created the universe. God gave us the breath of life. He holds all things in His hands, and it never becomes too much for Him. When I am worried or sad, I can turn to God. I can keep my cool because God is in control.



## LARGE GROUP GAME

### FEEDING TIME

#### ITEMS NEEDED:

Cornhole game (or large piece of cardboard with a hole cut out of it)  
Craft paper  
Markers or paints  
Masking tape  
Bean bags

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

Beforehand, cover the cornhole board with craft paper and tape in place. Use the markers to create the head of an open-mouthed lion (with the mouth lining up with the hole). You may need to create more than one lion depending on how many kids you have.

Have kids line up in front of the “lion.” Give each kid 3 chances to “feed the lion” by tossing the bean bags into the opening.

#### VARIATIONS:

Play multiple rounds. Kids that get at least one bean bag into the mouth play in the next round. Each round, kids must stand one step farther away from the lion than the previous round.

#### WHAT’S THE POINT?

You do not want to face a hungry lion in real life! When Daniel was thrown into the den of lions, God sent an angel to shut their mouths. Without that, the lions' next meal would have been Daniel. But Daniel kept his cool knowing that God is in control.



## LARGE GROUP LESSON

### **BOTTOM LINE:**

Whatever obstacles we face, God is in control.

### **OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will learn, "I can keep my cool because God is in control."

### **KEY PASSAGE:**

Daniel 6:10-27, Daniel in the Den of Lions

### **INTRO:**

For the next few weeks, our lessons will be all about learning to Chill! Keeping cool. When things heat up, it can be hard to keep our cool. But God calls us to show love, be slow to anger, and be kind to others. With His help, we can stay as cool as an arctic wind, no matter what we face.

Daniel was a guy who stayed chill. And it would have been really easy for him to lose his cool. Daniel had a really stressful job; he had been taken from his home in Israel when he was only a little older than you guys. He was taken away from his parents, his home, and everything he knew. He could have easily lost his cool. But Daniel never forgot that God is in control. We never know what tomorrow may bring, but God is always in control.

Others noticed how chill Daniel was, and over the years he was given more and more responsibility. Eventually, he was one of the king's top three advisors. The king was getting ready to make Daniel the head over all of his men.

Of course, this made the other advisors and the rest of the king's men angry. They came up with a plan to get Daniel out of the picture. They knew that Daniel prayed to God and worshiped Him only. So they convinced the king to issue a law, that for 30 days no one could pray to or worship anyone but the king. Anyone who disobeyed would be thrown into the lion's den.

The king liked the way that sounded, so he issued the law. Once the king issued a law, it could not be changed. Even by the king himself. If I had to live with a new law like this, I would probably lose my cool, but Daniel didn't. Daniel knew that God was in control, so he stayed chill.

**READ DANIEL 6:10-27**



## LARGE GROUP LESSON

### MAIN POINT:

The new law said that no one could pray to God. That was not right, so Daniel broke the law. He prayed 3 times a day to God. If it were me, I might have prayed in secret so no one knew I was breaking the bad law. But Daniel wasn't scared. He knew that God was in control. He opened up the windows in his house, so that everyone could see that he was praying to God.

Even when Daniel was arrested and brought before the king, Daniel knew that God was in control. Even when the king had Daniel thrown into the den of lions, Daniel knew that God was in control. When God sent the angel to shut the lions' mouths, Daniel could definitely see that God was in control. Daniel never lost his cool, because he knew that – say it with me – God was in control.

### DRIVE IT HOME:

Think about the challenges that you are facing today. What obstacles stand in your way? Perhaps you are facing troubles at home. Maybe there are difficulties at school. Perhaps a conflict with one of your friends. You wonder how you will get through it. You don't know how things will end.

None of us know what tomorrow will bring. But we can keep our cool knowing that God is in control. We can turn to God. We can pray to God like Daniel did, and ask for his peace to be in our hearts as God works out all the details. We can pray for wisdom and courage to do whatever God may need for us to do in certain situations. We can read the Bible to find out what God may want to tell us. We can reach out to the godly adults that God has put in our lives, and ask for their help.

And we can chill! God is in control. He loves you and He will take care of you. We can trust that God is looking out for you and God is looking out for me. We all face challenging times, but God is always in control. Always.

I don't have to stress. I can stay chill. I can keep my cool because God is in control.



## LARGE GROUP LESSON

### **CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:**

*Dear God,*

*We don't know what will happen tomorrow, but we know you are in control.*

*In Jesus' name,*

*Amen*



## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

### ICEBREAKER:

Do you prefer hot weather or cold weather? Why?

### MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

Matthew 2:2

Give all the kids a Bible. Then after you read the verse, give them the reference and see who can find it first in their Bible.

### SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Play some Charades, acting out a chill winter activity.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Daniel 6:10-27

How many times a day did Daniel pray in front of his open window?

What was the law that Daniel refused to follow?

How was Daniel punished for breaking the bad law?

What happened to Daniel in the lion's den?

What did the king do after Daniel came out of the lion's den unharmed?

### SIMPLE PRAYER:

*Dear God,*

*We praise you because you are always in control!*

*In Jesus' name,  
Amen*



## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3-5TH)

### ICEBREAKER:

Do you prefer hot weather or cold weather? Why?

### MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

Matthew 2:2

Give all the kids a Bible. Then after you read the verse, give them the reference and see who can find it first in their Bible.

### SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Play some Charades, acting out a chill winter activity.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Daniel 6:10-27

How many times a day did Daniel pray in front of his open window?

What was the law that Daniel refused to follow?

What do you think you would have done if you were in Daniel's place? Why?

What happened while Daniel was in the lion's den?

When was there a time when you needed to remember that God is in control?

### SIMPLE PRAYER:

*Dear God,*

*We praise you because you are always in control!*

*In Jesus' name,*

*Amen*



## POWERPOINT REVIEW GAME

### MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. How many times a day did Daniel pray in front of his open window?

- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 3\*

2. What was the king's decree?

- A. For 30 days, no one could stand by their window
- B. For 30 days, no one could pray or worship anyone but the king\*
- C. For 30 days, everyone had to dance in the streets

3. What was the punishment for breaking the law?

- A. Thrown in jail
- B. Thrown out of the city
- C. Thrown into the lions' den\*

4. How did God save Daniel?

- A. He lifted Daniel up out of the lions' den
- B. He sent an angel to shut the lions' mouths\*
- C. He didn't

5. I can keep my cool because \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. God is in control
- B. God is in control
- C. God is in control
- D. All of the above\*



# MAKE IT STICK

CHILL LESSON 1

5 SIMPLE WAYS  
YOU CAN MAKE  
THIS LESSON STICK  
WITH YOUR KIDS

## THIS WEEK'S LESSON:



### IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home: We can lose our cool when we don't know what is going to happen next. We only see the tip of the iceberg and have no idea what is going on below. Daniel didn't know what was going to happen when he was thrown into the den of lions, but he knew that God was in control, so he kept his cool. Daniel 6:10-27, Daniel in the Den of Lions



### HANGING OUT:

Make this week's lesson real: Find a YouTube video of lions in their natural habitat. Witness the power and ferociousness of these mighty beasts. Talk about how scary it might have been in the lions' den, especially if God had not sent an angel to shut the lions' mouths.



### AT DINNER:

- Here are some great discussion starters:
- What was the bad law that the king issued?
- How did Daniel respond to the new bad law?
- How did God show Daniel and the others that he was in control?



### AT BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this week's memory verse: "A person with a bad temper stirs up conflict. But a person who is patient calms things down." Proverbs 15:18 (NIRV)



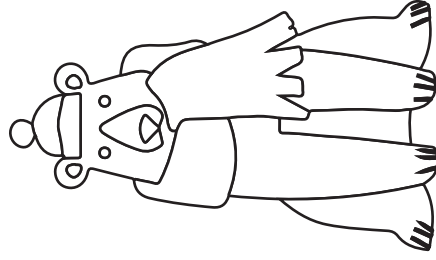
### PARENT TIME:

What you need to know: This week, kids were introduced to the concept that God is in control. Kids benefit from concrete examples of abstract concepts like these. Think of times in your life when you fully witnessed that God was in control in situations where you were not. Share these stories with your kids, where appropriate.

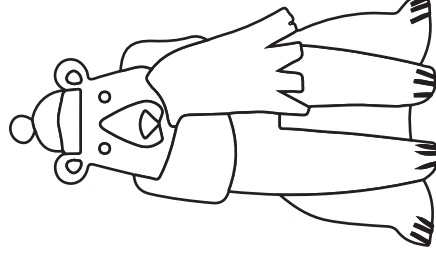


## TAKE HOME ACTIVITY

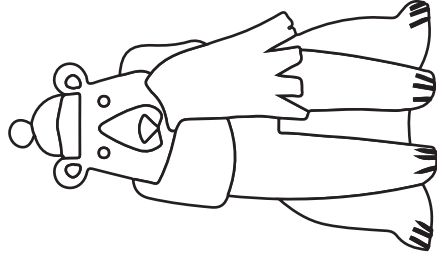
Have the kids make ferocious lion puppets. Use yellow construction paper for the head, orange construction paper cut in strips for the mane, and black marker for the eyes, nose and whiskers; glued to the bottom of a paper sack. Remind the kids that lions are strong and mighty, but God is stronger and mightier. God is always in control!



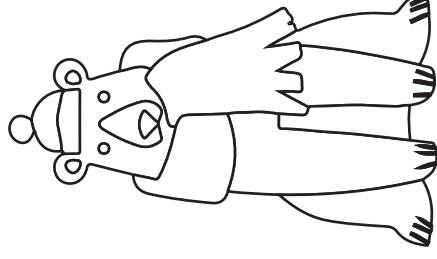
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but the one who is patient calms a quarrel.”  
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