

Unit 3: Harvest

Faith Focus: God provides for our needs.

The LORD bless you and protect you. (Numbers 6:24)

SESSION 13

GROW IN FAITH

God Provides Wisdom—Daniel 1:1-21

Daniel lived during the Babylonian Exile. This meant he was living in a foreign land among people with different cultural practices. The ruler of Babylon, King Nebuchadnezzar, requested young Jewish men to be trained to serve in his palace. This may have been an attempt to encourage all Jewish people to be loyal to Babylon. Daniel was selected, but because of religious differences, there was food Daniel and his friends would not eat. Daniel refused the king's food to uphold Mosaic laws. Daniel remained faithful to God and still excelled in the training.

Daniel was selected by the king as a consultant for wisdom and dream interpretation. Daniel worked for the king for many years providing guidance and understanding. Like Daniel, sometimes we might never get a thank you. But it doesn't mean the wisdom we share doesn't make a difference. Our faith in God to provide can be a blessing to others.

- Reflect on giving thanks to those who have helped the children.
- Ask the children to share a commitment they have to their faith.

SUPPLIES

colored pencils

sticky notes

crayons

plastic cups

potting soil

string bean seeds

spoons

water

container for water

*TV and DVD player or
streaming device*

SESSION OUTLINE

COME TOGETHER

Prepare to Learn

Faith Focus—God Provides
for Our Needs

Find Daniel's Food/Thank God
(Hidden Object)

FAITH CONNECTIONS

Read the Story

Big Faith Video

Faith Response

Big Faith Ages 7–12
Leader Guide • Fall 2024

FUN WITH FAITH

Seeds

(Science)

Color by Numbers Garden
(Coloring)

Upset the Vegetable Cart
(Game)

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Big Faith Idea—Faith in God

COME TOGETHER

Prepare to Learn

Supplies: All-Ages Class Pack, Activity Sheets, Activity Stickers

Prepare Ahead: Set up your area with supplies and activity pages needed for today's session. Display the Unit 3 Bible Verse Poster (Class Pack—pp. 9 & 16) and Unit 3 Faith Focus Poster (Class Pack—pp. 5 & 20) to use later in the session.

- As children arrive, invite them to join you in a circle.
- Give each child a copy of the "Fall Sticker Page" (Activity Sheets—p. 29) and their own set of Activity Stickers. Have children place the vegetables sticker on the Session 13 space.

SAY: God provides for us. God made the earth so that we could grow food and drink clean water. In today's story, Daniel and his friends decide to eat what God had provided and what God had said was good instead of eating the feasts of the people who did not follow God. Daniel had faith that God would help him get strong and thrive even if he was eating different foods. Daniel and his friends had the wisdom to follow God's directions. Wisdom means having knowledge and good judgment.

Faith Focus—God Provides for Our Needs

Supplies: All-Ages Class Pack

Prepare Ahead: Display the Unit 3 Faith Focus Poster (Class Pack—pp. 5 & 20).

- Show children the Unit 3 Faith Focus Poster.

SAY: Our faith focus for today is "God provides for our needs." We all have different needs. God even gives us wisdom to help us decide what to do when we have needs.

ASK: What kinds of things have people in the Bible needed?

- Give children time and space to share their ideas.

Find Daniel's Food/Thank God

Supplies: Activity Sheets, colored pencils

Prepare Ahead: Tear out "Find Daniel's Food/Thank God" (Session 13 Activity Sheet) for each child.

SAY: Daniel and his friends asked for vegetables for their food so that each person could eat what God said was good and clean. Help Daniel and his friends find food. Then write what you are grateful for on the back of your paper.

- Give each child an activity sheet.
- Encourage the children to find the vegetables in the picture and then turn the paper over to write what they are grateful for.

FAITH CONNECTIONS

Read the Story

Supplies: CEB kids' Bible or CEB Bible storybook

- Invite the children to join you in a circle.
- Read Daniel 1:1-21 in a CEB kids' Bible or your favorite CEB Bible storybook.

ASK: What did Daniel and his friends do? How did God provide for them?

Big Faith Video

Supplies: Big Faith DVD, TV, DVD player or streaming device

- Watch the Session 13 video on the Big Faith DVD or via your Amplify Media subscription.
- Give children time to respond to the questions on the screen. Discuss the questions as partner pairs, in small groups, or all together.

ASK: What was your favorite part of the Bible story?

Faith Response

Supplies: All-Ages Class Pack, sticky notes, crayons

Prepare Ahead: Display the Unit 3 Bible Verse Poster (Class Pack—pp. 9 & 16), Unit 3 Faith Focus Poster (Class Pack—pp. 5 & 20), and Unit 3 Faith Response Poster (Class Pack—pp. 7 & 18) if you haven't already.

- Invite children to wonder about the images on the posters.
- Encourage children to say the Bible verse with you.

SAY: God loves us so much. God wants us to have everything we need. In the Bible, God makes rules for people to help people live in community and take care of the earth. Daniel lived in a time when God made rules about what people should eat. Daniel lived with people who did not follow God and ate things God had said to avoid or prepare in a different way. Daniel decided he would only eat what God said was good. When Daniel ate vegetables, he grew big and strong, stronger than the people who were eating different foods. God took good care of Daniel. God gave Daniel the wisdom to follow God's rules.

ASK: How does God take good care of you?

- Place the Faith Response Poster on the floor or a table and invite the children to gather around it.
- Give each child a sticky note and crayons.

ASK: What do you see on our poster?

- Instruct each child to write on the sticky note one thing he or she can do to take good care of himself or herself and your community and then stick the note on the poster.

FUN WITH FAITH

Seeds

Supplies: plastic cups, potting soil, string bean seeds, container for water, water, spoons

SAY: Daniel and his friends ate vegetables. We are going to grow our own vegetables.

- Give each child a cup and a spoon.
- Have the children fill their cups with potting soil.
- Invite the children to push a bean seed into the dirt and put some water on the seed.

SAY: In the next few days, these seeds will begin to sprout. Water the seeds every other day and place the seeds near a window. Soon you will have your very own bean plant.

Color by Number Garden

Supplies: colored pencils

Prepare Ahead: Make copies of “Color by Number Garden” (Leader Guide—p. 88).

SAY: God created the earth to grow good foods like the vegetables that Daniel ate. Use the key to color the garden.

- Give each child a copy of the “Color by Number Garden” reproducible.
- Encourage the children to color the garden using the numbers as a guide for which color to use.

Upset the Vegetable Cart

SAY: The earth is full of good foods for us to eat. Daniel and his friends knew that God would bless the food that each of them ate.

- Have the children form a circle.
- Go around the circle assigning each child one of three vegetables: beans, carrots, or celery.
- Have the children rearrange their order in the circle.
- Choose one child to go into the center and have the other children tighten the circle to fill in the space. The child in the middle will call out a vegetable. Everyone with that vegetable must find a new place in the circle. The person who does not have a spot goes to the center and calls out a new vegetable.
- If a person calls out UPSET THE VEGETABLE CART, everyone in the circle must find a new place.
- Play as long as there is interest or as your time allows.

SHARE YOUR FAITH

Big Faith Idea—Faith in God

Supplies: All-Ages Class Pack

Prepare Ahead: Display the Fall Big Faith Idea Poster (Class Pack—pp. 4 & 21).

Photocopy the Unit 3 Family Faith Letter (Leader Guide—pp. 95–96) if needed.

- Show children the Big Faith Idea Poster.

SAY: God provides for all our needs. God gives us a planet full of resources to care for all the living things on the earth. We need wisdom to know how to best use those resources. We have faith that God will give us wisdom to take good care of the people around us and to solve problems.

- Have the children gather in a circle.
- Invite the children to quietly think about how God might be giving each of them wisdom for a problem she or he might have.

PRAY: Dear God, thank you that you give us wisdom. Thank you for your love and care for us. Help us to be wise. Amen.

- Send the Family Faith Letter home with each child who hasn't received one.
- Send home any activities or items made during today's session.

REPRODUCIBLE SESSION 13

Color by Number Garden

Color in the picture. Use the numbers to find out which color belongs in each space.

1: Light Blue

2: Light Green

3: Pink

4: Yellow

5: Dark Green

6: Dark Blue

7: Orange

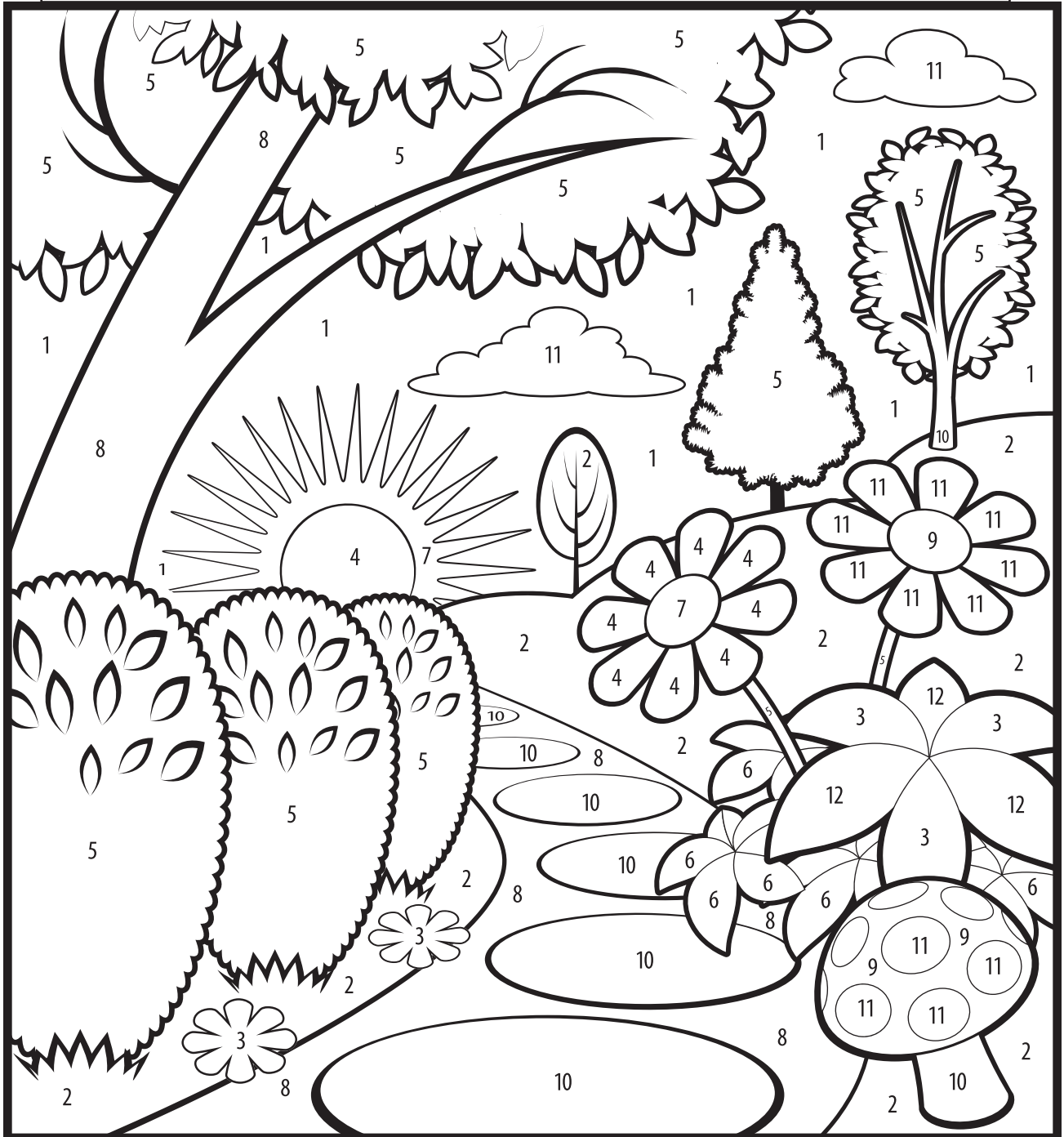
8: Brown

9: Red

10: Tan

11: White

12: Purple



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