

WEEK 2 LESSON GUIDE



BIG IDEA

I'm not alone —
God is with me!

BIBLE

The Fiery Furnace:
Daniel 3

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 | Super Seven

- Welcome back to the Babylon Zoo, and our series *Hear Me Roar*, friends! I'm Zookeeper [First Name]. Today, I have walked the entire zoo seven times! I was able to do that because I did seven exercises. **Can I show them to you?**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Lead the kids in seven exercises, such as: jumping up and down, waving your arms like a plane, stretching up and down, stretching side to side, lunging forward, turning head side to side, and pretending to roll a ball.
- Great job! Today we'll hear the number seven in our Bible story!

ACTIVITY | Still as a Statue

- **Have you ever seen a statue?** They're pretty cool, right?
- Today, you can pretend to be a statue, which means you have to stand as still as you can. Do you think you can do that?
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play some fun music that kids can dance to. When the music stops, they should stop dancing and stand as still as a statue until the music plays again.
- You were all awesome statues!
- Today in our Bible story, we'll hear about real statues that were made from gold.

STORY TIME

SCRIPTURE | Daniel 3 (The Fiery Furnace)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Tell the story of Daniel 3 as though you're guiding kids through an exhibit at the Babylon Zoo, with the help of your [hand puppet friend Gus the Giraffe](#) (save the other hand puppets in pack for future weeks). Remain in the zookeeper character.
- It's been another exciting but hot day here at the Babylon Zoo!
- Let me sit down and cool off while my friend Gus the Giraffe joins us. Can you help me call Gus? When I count to seven, I want you to yell, "Come on out, Gus!"
- *[Count to seven and allow kids to respond. Bring out the giraffe hand puppet and motion it to wave to the kids.]*
- *[Gus talking]* Hi friends! It's so good to see you!
- Last week, my friend Millie the Monkey told you about Daniel and his friends who were brought from Jerusalem to Babylon. Well, the most incredible thing happened to Daniel's friends and I've got to tell you about it!
- *[Read Daniel 3 from a preschool Bible or preschool-friendly translation.]*
- So let me get this straight. The king wanted everyone to bow to his statue instead of God, right? And even though they would get into big trouble if they disobeyed, the three friends, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, said NO!
- The king got so mad that he threw the friends into a hot, hot furnace.
- But don't worry — they were okay! God protected them and they were safe.
- They were never alone. God was with them the whole time!

BIG IDEA | I'm not alone — 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.
- Daniel's friends were not alone in that hot furnace. God was with them! That's what our Big Idea for today is all about.
- Gus, the envelope, please!
- *[Have the kids do a drumroll on their legs. Look over at Gus, who's holding an envelope in his mouth.]*
- Thank you, Gus!
- *[Open the envelope and read the Big Idea aloud.]* **I'm not alone — God is with me!**
- Stand up and let's say this together:
 - **I'm not alone** — (shake head from side to side)
 - **God** (point up)
 - **is with me!** (use thumbs to point to self)

VIDEO | Hear Me Roar, Episode 2

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

ACTIVITY | Praise Parade

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each child a 12-inch length of streamers. Have them wave their streamers and parade around the room as you play upbeat music. You may even have different kids lead the parade.
- ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Pass out toddler-safe wrist bell bracelets for the children to shake instead of streamers.

- Daniel's friends didn't bow to the king because they only worshipped God. Let's worship God together now and celebrate that **I'm not alone — God is with me!**
- Waving these streamers look like colors of fire in the furnace!

PRAYER

- God, thank you that we are never alone. Help us to remember that you're always with us. Amen.

SHARING TIME

SNACK | Fruit By the Foot

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give the children a Fruit By The Foot snack to enjoy. While kids eat, you can play a song like "This Little Light of Mine" (Listener Kids).
- ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Offer younger kids smaller, easier to chew fruit-shaped gummies.
- **What does your snack look like?**
- Yes, they look like the streamers we just waved!
- **Do you like playing alone or playing with friends?**
- **What makes playing with friends fun?**
- Daniel's friends were not alone in the furnace. They were with each other, and most importantly, God was with them!
- God is with you, too, so you can remember: **I'm not alone — God is with me!**

ACTIVITY | Circle Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Roll a small orange, yellow, or red ball to one of the children. Ask that child a review question. Instruct the child to roll the ball to another child and ask another question. Continue play until all of the questions have been asked.
- **What did the king want everyone to do?**
- **Who said "no"?**
- **Why did they say "no"?**
- **Why do you think God wants us to only worship him?**
- **How do you worship God?**

ACTIVITY | Light Cups

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set out the supplies, including the sample that you've made. Show the kids how to place glue on the back of the tissue squares and stick the squares all around the outside of the clear cup, overlapping colors. Then turn on the tea light candle and place it inside of the cup. You may choose to add a sticker label to the front of the cups. Be sure to write each child's name on their cup. (See a worked example [here](#).)
- ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Tape lengths of orange, yellow, and red streamers to one end of a preschool play tunnel. Have the children crawl through and say, "**I'm not alone — God is with me!**" when they come out.
- Daniel's friends were placed in a hot furnace because they worshipped God instead of the king.
- God was with them and protected them.
- God was always with them.
- God is with us too! **I'm not alone — 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 memory verse by breaking them into four groups, assigning each group a portion of the verse. Have each group practice reciting their segment of the verse. Bring them back together to recite the whole verse together, with each group saying their respective part. Finish each round of memorizing with a loud roar!
- When we worked together, we memorized the whole thing! It's much more fun with friends!

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 | Story in Action

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set out action figures for the kids to use in retelling today's story. Help kids use ordinary objects around the room to create scenery such as using a tissue box as the furnace and a stuffed animal to be Nebuchadnezzar's statue.

ACTIVITY | Music Center

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Provide preschool-safe musical instruments for the kids to enjoy. Encourage them to make music for God, unlike the people in today's story. Make sure you wipe down instruments before and after use.