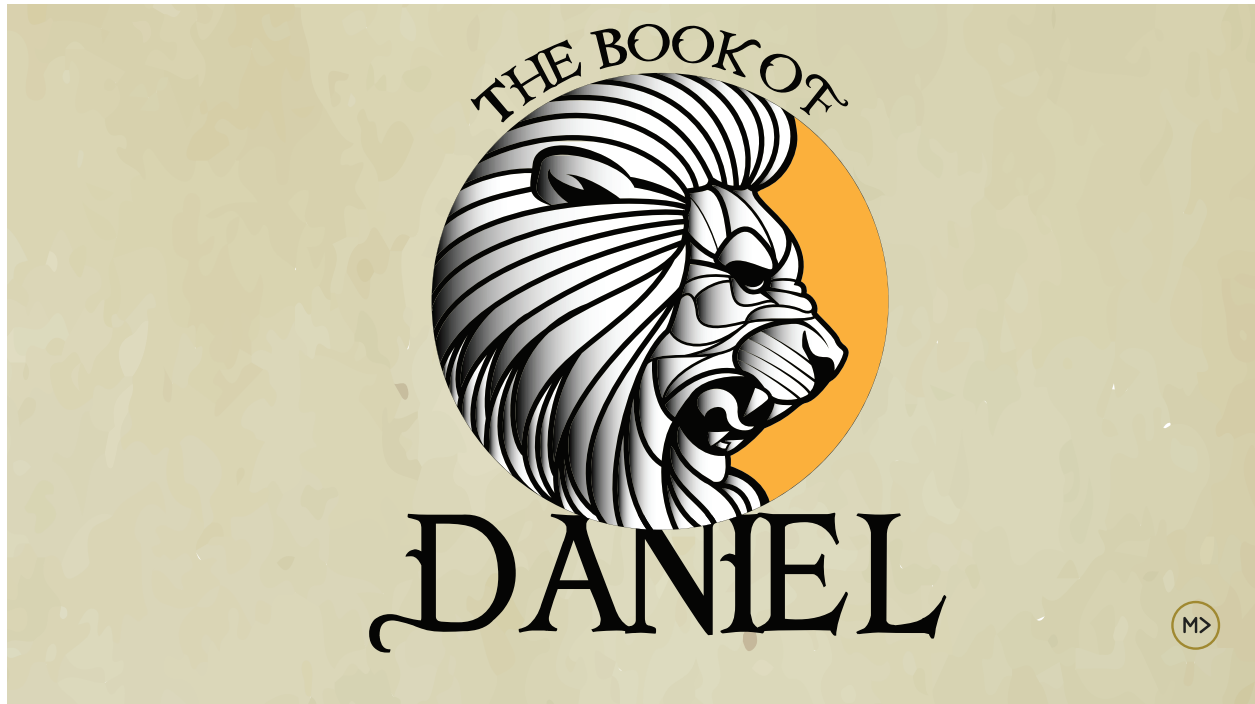


# MD KIDS CURRICULUM: DANIEL



## Week Seven: Daniel's First Dream

### To the Teachers

*The book of Daniel is primarily about how God's people can live in His kingdom in the midst of a culture trying to rule with human kingdoms. Pray that we as a church, our kids included, will learn to love our culture while remaining faithful to our true King.*

- **Big Idea:** We need a better King!

### As Kids Enter (15 minutes - Classroom)

- **Question:** Have you ever had a scary dream before? What about a dream you didn't understand? Today we'll hear about a scary and confusing dream Daniel had, but it turned out to be good news!
- **Starter:** 'Son of Man video'  
You may choose to show this video or not about Jesus the Son of Man from the Bible Project: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z6cWEcqxlI&t=28s>

### Sing Together (15 minutes)

### Group Teaching (30 minutes - Lead Teacher)

- **Story:** from Daniel 7

The first year Belshazaar acted as king, Daniel had a crazy dream. Daniel was able to interpret dreams for kings before, but now he had his own dream that was really hard to understand. Well, really it was God who helped Daniel understand the king's dreams, so God also helped Daniel understand some of his own dream. Daniel wrote down his dream and this is how it went:

Winds from heaven in all directions stirred up the waters of the sea and four huge beasts rose up out of the waters. The first one was like a lion but had wings like an eagle. Its wings were then torn off and it was turned into a man. Then, a second beast appeared that looked like a bear devouring things. A third beast was like a leopard with four wings and four heads. Finally, the fourth beast came which was different from the others. It was more scary and stronger than the others and crushed things with its teeth and its feet. It also had ten horns on its' head.

After all this, Daniel saw the Ancient of Days sit on a throne above all things. His clothes and hair were really white like snow and His throne shone like fire. Thousands and thousands bowed and served Him, but the beast spoke arrogantly against Him. So, the beast was destroyed and burned up in fire. The other beasts were allowed to live a little longer, but they were not allowed to rule anymore.

Then, suddenly one like a Son of Man came with the clouds before the Ancient of Days. This man was given power, glory, and a kingdom over all of creation so everyone and everything served him. His kingdom would never be taken away or destroyed.

Daniel did not understand the dream and was afraid, but one of God's messengers explained it. "The beasts represented human kings who were meant to rule as representatives of the true King, God, but they were selfish and arrogant and failed to be good kings. They became more like animals than humans showing what God is like. The fourth beast was the worst and he would even wage war against the Lord. But the Son of Man who came on the clouds would be the only perfect human who could rule as King the right way, showing the rest of creation what the Ancient of Days, the Lord, is like. One day, he will rule forever, but he will also allow the other humans who follow him to rule beside him."

Daniel woke up. There was still much he did not understand about the dream.

*[Things to Point Out]*

- Ask: Who interpreted Daniel's dream?
  - God sent a messenger in Daniel's dream to help him understand
  - Just like Daniel was a messenger sent by God to help Nebuchadnezzar understand his dreams
- Ask: What did the four beasts in his dream represent?
  - Human kings - God created humans to rule the earth as His representatives
  - These kings were not ruling well and their selfishness, pride, and arrogance made them less than human
- Ask: Who do you think the Ancient of Days is?
  - The Ancient of Days is a name used for God
  - It means He has always existed from the beginning, before all other things
- Ask: Who do you think the Son of Man is?
  - Jesus often called himself the Son of Man when he was on earth
  - Jesus is the only perfect human who is fit to rule God's Kingdom - because he is not only human but he is also God!
- Daniel's dream also said that every other human who trusts in and follows the Son of Man, Jesus, would one day rule over earth with him. How amazing is that?!

**In Breakout Classes (30 minutes - Classroom)**

- **Prayer:**

Lord, thank You for being a good King over all the world and thank You for letting us have a part in Your kingdom! Amen.
- **Craft:**
  - Using paper, help the kids cut out and decorate a crown for their heads
  - Or use the *coloring page* attached
- **BLESS Activity:**

*\*For kids to do during the week\**

  - **Bless:** The beasts in Daniel's dream were destroying things, but the Son of Man brought blessing to creation. How can you be a blessing to others this week as a way to show what Jesus is like?

Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a  
cloud with power and great glory.  
*Luke 21:27*

