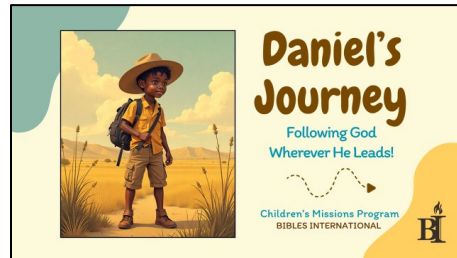


Daniel's Journey

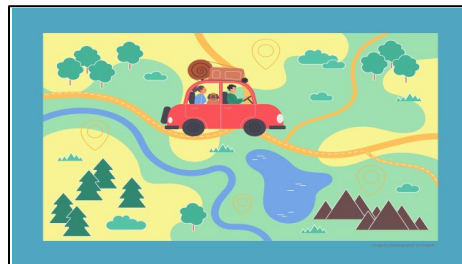
Lesson 1 – “Daniel’s Faith”

INTRODUCTION



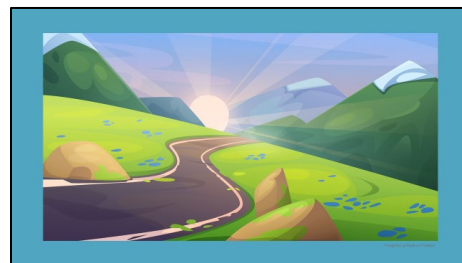
(Slide 1 – Daniel's Journey)

Welcome to ***Daniel's Journey!*** Daniel is a boy who lives in Chad, Africa with his family among the Day (DYE) people. In this lesson and others, we're going to walk alongside him as he learns to follow God wherever God leads him.



(Slide 2 – Car on a journey)

Isn't it great when someone tells you to pack your bag because you're going on a trip? When you find out that you're going to a place you've never been before—maybe someone's house, or an adventure park, or just some place far away, you don't even mind where it is. It's just exciting to take the trip.



(Slide 3 – Road landscape)

But soon you want to know where you're going and how you'll get there. You want to know what you'll do there and what you should take with you. You want to know a lot more so that it can be a really great trip.

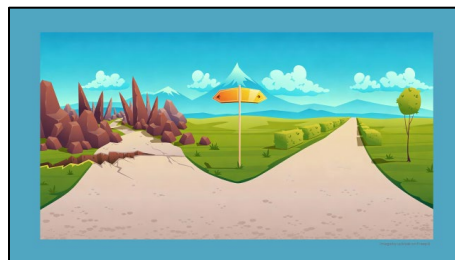
The moment you were born, you started your own exciting journey through life that will reach a final destination one day—either to the best place or the worst place.



(Slide 4 – Cross over mountains and Bible)

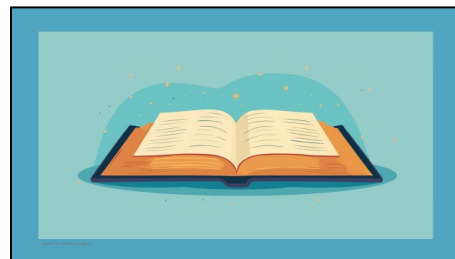
God loves you so much and wants you to be with Him forever in the best place— heaven—after you die. But, the wrong things you do—the wrong things we all do, which God calls sin—mean that you can't get to heaven on your own.

So Jesus came to earth and took all your sin on Himself. He died on a cross and then came back to life—all to show you that He can forgive your sin and bring you to God!



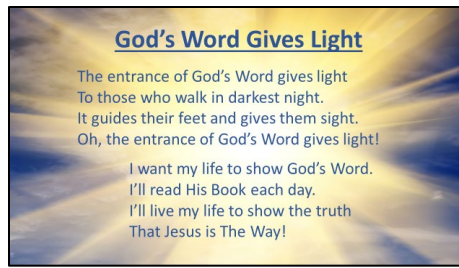
(Slide 5 –Two roads)

If you believe that Jesus is the only way to heaven and ask God to forgive you, then He will save you. You are now His child, and you will go to heaven after you die. But if you don't believe in Jesus, then you won't be saved. You'll go to a terrible place called hell and be there forever without God. This is a choice you have to make for yourself. No one else can do it for you.



(Slide 6 – Open Bible)

How do we know all of this? God tells us in His special book, the Bible. God put in it everything He wants us to know—about Him, about life, about death, even about what happens after we die. God's Word gives light!



(Slide 7 – Song/Poem: God's Word Gives Light)

*The entrance of God's Word gives light
To those who walk in darkest night.
It guides their feet and gives them sight.
Oh, the entrance of God's Word gives light!*

*I want my life to show God's Word.
I'll read His Book each day.
I'll live my life to show the truth
That Jesus is The Way!*



(Slide 8 – Proverbs 3:5-6)

God's Word, the Bible, also tells us how He wants His children, His followers, to live each day. It helps us know what to do. For example, this verse tells us to trust God, listen to Him, and make Him the most important thing in our life. And He will help us know where to go and what to do every day. We need to have faith and put it into action!

Proverbs 3:5-6

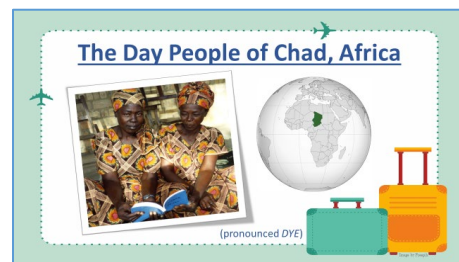
*Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.
In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths.*

MISSIONS FOCUS



(Slide 9 – Bibles International)

There are people all around the world who need to hear that God loves them too and that they can believe in Jesus and be saved. The people at Bibles International want everyone to know this. They also want everyone to have a Bible that they can read and hear in their own language.



(Slide 10 – Day People of Chad, Africa)

For many years now, Bibles International has been working with the Day (DYE) people in Africa to translate the whole Bible into their language. It's so exciting that it will be finished this year (2026)!

Let's take a quick trip to Africa, to the country of Chad, and learn something about the Day (DYE) people who live there.



(Slide 11 – Center of Africa)

Chad is located on the continent of Africa. There are more than 200 different groups of people who live in Chad, each with its own distinct language and culture.

There are about 50,000 people in the Day (DYE) group who live in southern Chad, near the city of Sahr (SAHR). This city is located near the very center of Africa. There is even a special marker for the exact spot!

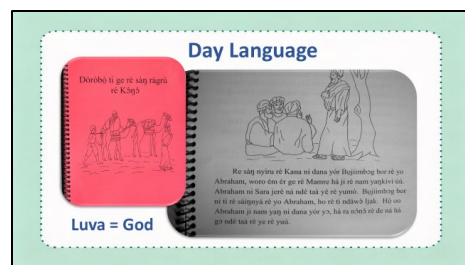


(Slide 12 – Day Culture)

The Day (DYE) people enjoy wearing bright, colorful clothing with exciting patterns, even though they also wear clothing similar to what we wear in our country. Men typically wear pants and a shirt. Women wear a wrapped skirt or dress and cover their heads with a scarf. If you want a new outfit, you can go to the market, pick out material that you like, and have them sew something that is made just for you!

The Day (DYE) live in small, round huts of dried, mud bricks and thatched roofs. Most of them live in small villages, away from the towns or cities.

Although some of the Day (DYE) people know French or Arabic, they speak their own language in their homes and villages. That language is also called Day (DYE).

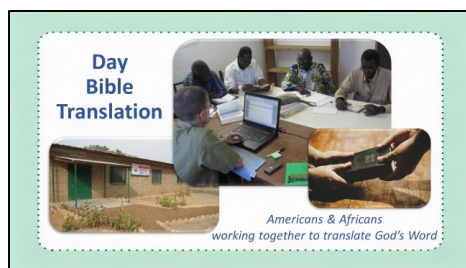


(Slide 13 – Day Language)

Even though all of the Day (DYE) people can speak their language, not all of them can read their language. Actually, only 20% could. But now 70% of them can read! That’s because Bibles International has created literacy materials and helped the national teachers to teach their own people.

Bibles International worked with them to write an alphabet book called a primer (PRIMM-er) with simple pictures of everyday objects and then to write a storybook. Once they learned the Day (DYE) alphabet, spelling, and a little grammar, they learned to read simple stories.

This is an Old Testament Storybook with pictures they have drawn. These stories help them learn about God and people in the Bible in an easy way. The Day (DYE) word for God is “Luva” (LOO-VAH), spelled L-U-V-A.



(Slide 14 – Day Bible Translation)

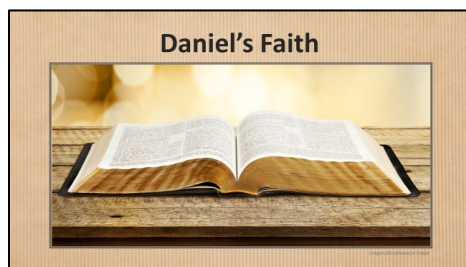
For many years, Bibles International has worked with a group of Day believers to translate the Bible into their language. One part of it, the New Testament, was finished in 1999. Since then, they have been working hard on translating the Old Testament. This year (2026), all of that work will end. The Day Bible will be printed and shipped, and they will have the whole Bible in their own language!

MISSIONS STORY



(Slide 15 – Daniel's Journey: Faith & Action)

Now I'd like to tell you about a Day (DYE) boy named Daniel, who lives with his father, mother, and baby sister. Daniel is beginning a journey. He's not going to another place though. He is starting a spiritual journey. Daniel is learning to follow God wherever He leads.



(Slide 16 – Daniel's Faith)

Daniel is also learning to put his faith into action. Today we're going to hear the first part of his story. It's called "Daniel's Faith."



(Slide 17 – Round African houses)

“I sold almost 50 beignets (BEN-yay) this morning, Mama!” Daniel called out to his mother as he approached his family’s home.

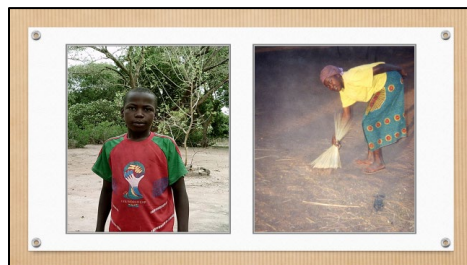
Like others in the Day (DYE) community in Chad, Africa, they live in a small, simple house made of mud bricks with a thatched roof. His mother was sweeping the ground around it, making it tidy and clean. “Almost 50!” he said again.



(Slide 18 – Beignets in box)

Daniel was happy that he sold so many of the delicious, round doughnuts in the busy market. His mother had made them at home early that morning, and they really were delicious.

The African boy emptied his pockets and handed his mother the assortment of coins he had received in exchange for the beignets (BEN-yay). It was hard work to sell so many of them. Sometimes people bought only a few to eat, but today had been a really good day.



(Slide 19 – Daniel; Mama sweeping)

Mama beamed at her son. “Good job, Daniel! Now we can buy some fish to add to our sauce for supper. If you hurry, there is still time to buy some,” she added, knowing how much her son loved to bargain with the vendors in the market.

Daniel quickly looked down at his flip-flops and sand-covered toes. “What’s wrong, Daniel?” Mama asked. “Don’t you want to get the fish?”

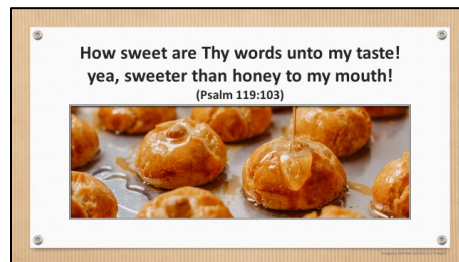
“Yes,” the boy answered. “It’s just that... well... I was wondering...” he said hesitantly.

“Yes,” Mama encouraged. “What is it?”

“If there is money left over after I buy the fish, can I keep a few of the coins?” he asked.

Mama smiled and sighed. “Too many sweets are not good for your teeth.”

Daniel bit his lip. “Well, I wasn’t going to buy any candy. There is something sweet that I want, but you don’t eat it. Do you remember, Mama, what Pastor Nouba (NEW-bah) was talking about at church last Sunday? He said that God’s words are sweeter than honey.”



(Slide 20 – Psalm 119:103)

Mama did remember that the pastor had quoted a verse in the Bible: “How sweet are Thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!” (Psalm 119:103).

“Yes, His words are even sweeter than my beignets (BEN-yay)!” said Mama, nodding her head.

Daniel continued, “Mama, I want to have God’s sweet words for our family—all of them. It’s good that we have part of the Bible—the New Testament—in our language, but I want the rest of it too. I want the Old Testament and the New Testament.”

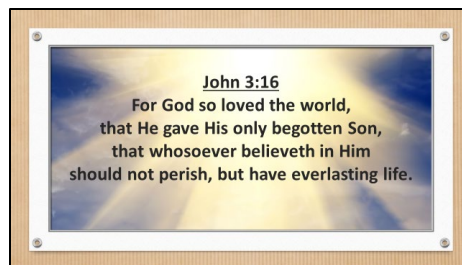
Daniel’s mother stopped sweeping, surprised to hear that this was what her son wanted to buy. She thought of the New Testament in their little house. They kept it in a special basket when they weren’t reading it so it would be protected from animals and insects.



(Slide 21 – Translation team; Bible in hand)

Mama was thankful that, many years earlier, people from Bibles International in America had started working with people in her community to translate God’s Word into their own language, the Day (DYE) language. After working together for many years, the Day (DYE) New Testament had been translated and printed. She was so glad that she had been able to buy that New Testament!

Then the translation team started working on the Old Testament. This part also took many years of careful work, but it was almost finished. They would soon have the Old Testament printed together with the New Testament in one wonderful book—the Bible—the whole Word of God!



(Slide 22 – John 3:16)

Just like Daniel, Mama wanted the Old Testament too. Several years ago, she learned a verse in the Bible, John 3:16: “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

That day, she prayed to God and asked Him to forgive all the bad she had ever done. She trusted in Jesus that day and knew that God had saved her. Since then, she had taught her son Daniel to know and love God. It was a very happy day indeed when he also trusted Jesus as his Savior and gave his life to God.



(Slide 23 – Coins)

“I know they’re not finished translating the Old Testament yet,” Daniel continued, “but I’m going to save up money to buy a whole Bible when it is finished. Then we can read it at home.”

Daniel’s mother was proud of her son’s desire to buy a whole Bible, but she also knew how hard it was to save money. They didn’t earn much, and their daily needs took most of what they had.

Mama sighed. “But how will we save enough?” she asked, wondering if they really would be able to do it.



(Slide 24 – Mama in doorway; Daniel)

“God will help me work hard and earn extra money,” Daniel answered. “We’ll just have to be really careful and save it up little by little.”

Mama agreed, but then said, “You know Papa will use it for bad drink if he finds it.” She glanced around quickly to make sure her husband was not nearby. Papa spent all of their extra money on alcohol at the local bar. Mama loved him but knew how much he struggled with his addiction to alcohol.

Daniel looked around to make sure no one else could hear him and whispered, “Yes, but I can hide it under my sleeping mat.”

Mama clapped her hands together in excitement. “You are a fine boy, Daniel! Your love for God is strong, and your faith is too. God will help you!”

Daniel smiled shyly. “Will you pray with me right now, Mama? I want God to help me bargain for a good price for the fish, so I can start saving money right away.”

Nodding, she said, “Of course, Son, and let’s pray that we’ll have enough money to buy it when the whole Bible is translated into Day (DYE).”



(Slide 25 – Daniel with fish)

There were still people in the market when Daniel arrived, but there were fewer than in the morning. It was afternoon now and people were heading home. Daniel headed straight for the table that held the piles of slippery fish, some big and some small.

“Good day, Sir,” Daniel said politely to the fish seller. Without smiling, the man nodded back in acknowledgement.

Daniel knew he couldn’t afford the big fish, so he asked, “Please, Sir, how much for the small fish today?” Daniel asked, pointing at a pile of small ones.

The vendor looked the boy over from head to toe and slowly said, “Five hundred francs.”

Although Daniel had five hundred francs from his mother, he asked hopefully, “Would you take three hundred?”



(Slide 26 – Fish seller in market)

The fish seller shook his head. “Four hundred and fifty,” he responded curtly.

“Please, Sir,” Daniel said. “It’s already afternoon, and you have many fish left to sell. What’s your best price?”

Daniel held his breath, but the fish seller remained firm. “Four hundred and fifty francs,” he grunted.

Then Daniel pulled some of the coins out of his pocket. “I can give you four hundred francs,” he said, handing the man the coins. Daniel waited anxiously to see if he would accept it or not.

The vendor took the coins, looking displeased, but he always looked grumpy when bargaining with customers. Then he picked up some of the small fish and wrapped them in brown paper for the boy to carry home.

Daniel turned away from the table of fish with a huge grin on his face. God had already started helping him earn some extra money!



(Slide 27 – Round hut)

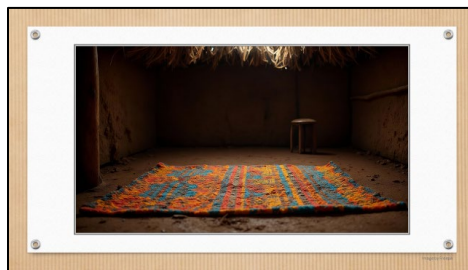
“Mama! Mama!” Daniel shouted as he neared his family’s house. He saw that the mat covering the door was pulled down to keep out the hot African sun.

Entering the small house, he held up the paper package. “Look! Fish for today’s meal!”

Mama smiled broadly at her son. She took the package of fish, and then asked him quietly, “And how much money do you have leftover to save for our Bible?”

Daniel glanced over his shoulder and pulled the coins out of his pocket. He counted each coin. “One hundred francs, Mama.”

“That’s a great start, my Son,” Mama said, her smile growing even larger. “We will keep working and saving. God will help us have enough to buy a copy of His Word when it is printed.”



(Slide 28 – Sleeping mat in hut)

Suddenly, they heard a man’s voice outside a short distance away. “Beatrice!” he shouted in a French accent.

Daniel’s eyes widened. “It’s Papa!” he said.

“Hide your coins!” Mama whispered. “Quickly!”

Daniel lifted the corner of his sleeping mat. He had started digging a hole underneath it a few days earlier, but he had to be careful that no one saw him doing it. Although he had saved an empty tomato sauce can from Mama's cooking, the hole wasn't big enough yet for the can.

Papa was so close now that Daniel only had time to throw the coins into the hole in the ground and straighten the sleeping mat before his father arrived.

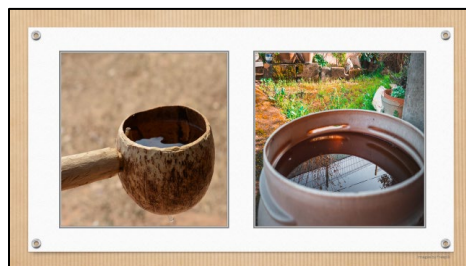


(Slide 29 – Papa with fish; Papa with garden)

“Look, Papa,” Mama said pleasantly. “Fish! Fish for our meal today. Daniel sold almost 50 beignets (BEN-yay) in the market.” Mama hoped he would be pleased.

“Good!” Daniel's father responded. Then he spread out the fish on a cloth on the ground and looked at each one carefully. “I'm hungry!” he said. “These will be good for supper tonight.”

Then Papa looked at Daniel. “Bring me some water, Son. It's been very hot out in the garden.” Daniel's father had spent many hours working in their small garden. The ground was hard and dry, and it was very difficult to keep their food crops from dying in the heat.



(Slide 30 – Gourd cup; Clay water pot)

“Yes, Papa,” Daniel said and ran outside the house. He hurried to the large clay pot of water which they kept under the mango tree. In the hot weather of Chad, Africa, the leaves of the mango tree created a delightful shade that cooled the water in the clay pot.

Daniel dipped the cup, which was made from a gourd, into the water. Then he carried it carefully to his father without spilling a drop. Water was not plentiful in this land, and he could not afford to be wasteful of it.

Daniel watched his father as he drank the cool water. Daniel loved his father, but he hoped that Papa would never find the hidden coins. Daniel didn't want him to buy alcohol at the bar, but even more than that, Daniel really, really wanted to buy a Day (DYE) Bible!



(Slide 31 – Faith & Action)

Both Daniel and his mother have chosen to follow God. They have asked Jesus to forgive their sins and know that He is the only way they can go to heaven. Daniel's father has not chosen to follow God. He has not invited Jesus into his life as his Savior. Which have you chosen? Are you a true follower of God, or do you just know a lot about Him? There is a big difference!

Today we have seen Daniel's faith, but we have also seen him putting that faith into action. He is trying to trust God and obey him each day, but he is also saving money to buy his own copy of God's Word. Do you have a Bible of your own? Having a Bible and reading it is one way you can put your faith into action.

MISSIONS PROJECT



(Slide 32 – Bibles International)

Bibles International wants everyone to have a Bible in their own language. In fact, their desire is to have "a reliable Bible translation in every language and a Bible in every hand." So, they're working hard with nationals in 14 countries to translate God's Word into 39 different languages! (2026)



(Slide 33 – Children's Missions Project)

So many kids and adults want the Bible in their own language, but it's hard for them to save enough money to buy their own copy. Bibles International is helping them do that. Bibles International pays the cost of translating the Bible and then printing and shipping it. This means that people in other countries pay a much smaller amount to have their own copy of God's Word.



(Slide 34 – How can you help?)

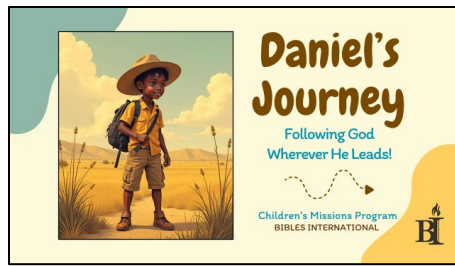
Would you like to help the work of Bibles International? There are two ways you can help. You can give, and you can pray. You can give some of your money to help people have a Bible. You can also pray that the Bible will be translated into other languages and that people will read and obey it.



(Slide 35 – Buy a Bible)

Would you like to help kids and their families have their own Bible? It costs \$10 for Bibles International to print and ship a Bible in another language. If you can give some of your money, then you'll be helping kids like Daniel of the Day (DYE) tribe in Africa get their very own copy of the Bible in their language!

CONCLUSION



(Slide 36 – Daniel's Journey)

The next time we meet, we'll learn more about the Day (DYE) people in Chad, Africa. We'll continue our story about Daniel and travel with him on his journey of following God wherever He leads. Are you following God wherever He leads?

Optional

- Distribute Lesson 1 Activity Sheet.
- Collect Children's Missions Project offering.
- Distribute Children's Program Take-home Card.
- Distribute Missions Project Take-home Card.
- Distribute Missions Gift Take-home Card.
- Distribute Prayer Take-home Card.