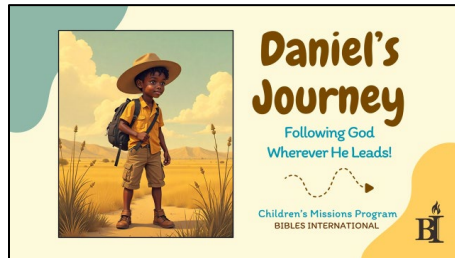


Daniel's Journey

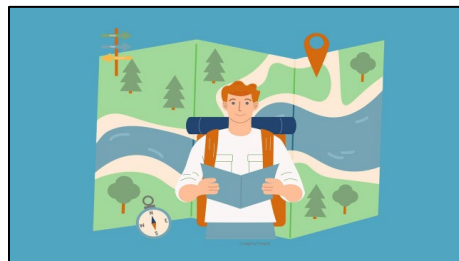
Lesson 3 – “Daniel’s Gift”

INTRODUCTION



(Slide 1 – Daniel's Journey)

Welcome back to ***Daniel's Journey!*** Daniel is a boy who lives in Chad, Africa with his family among the Day (DYE) people. Daniel has been learning a lot on his journey—a physical journey to save money to buy a Bible, but also a spiritual journey, the journey of following God wherever He leads. Let's walk with Daniel on his journey. Let's learn to follow God, too, wherever He leads us!



(Slide 2 – Hiker with map)

If you're going on a journey and want to follow a certain route, you need a map or GPS to help you reach the right destination. A guidebook is also great to have with you because it tells you about important things along the way. It tells you what to pay attention to as you travel—things you want to enjoy and things you want to avoid.



(Slide 3 – Children under banner)

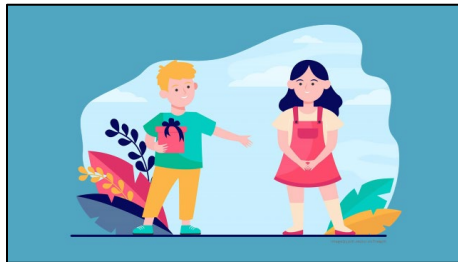
God has given His followers a guidebook called the Bible. It helps us avoid so many problems in life, but it also tells us how to do things right so that we enjoy

life and please God too. As we learn to follow God, we learn how He wants us to think and feel and act towards others.



(Slide 4 – Two boys pointing)

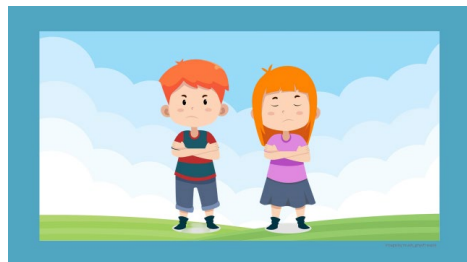
Because God loves each one of us so very much, he wants us to love other people too. He wants us to see them like He sees them and treat them like He treats them. When we love other people, we are helping them see how much God loves them.



(Slide 5 – Boy giving gift)

When we think of ways to show love, we usually think of giving gifts. But that's only one way to show love. There are many more ways—even better ways—to show God's love to others.

When a new kid comes to school, you can be friendly and help them understand everything they need to know. When an adult drops something on the floor, you pick it up for them. You can include different kids in your friend group, and be extra forgiving of your brother or sister, and be generous with your snacks and toys.



(Slide 6 – Boy and girl upset)

When we're selfish, greedy, unkind, and even cruel, we're not obeying God. We're not following Him. But when we show love and generosity, we're doing things God's way. We're following Him.

Sometimes it's hard to do these things. Sometimes we feel like we're the only ones who want to listen to God, but we're not alone. We're never alone. Jesus always helps us, and there are people around us who want to help us too.



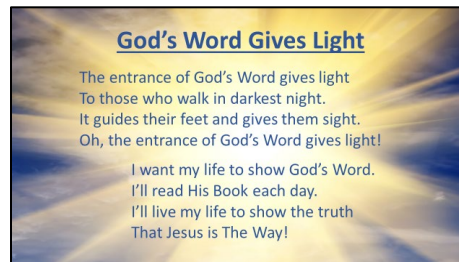
(Slide 7 – Proverbs 3:5-6)

We just need to keep reading our Bible and trusting God. When we do that, He will guide us all along the path He wants us to take!

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.

God helps us know how to love and to be generous, because His Word, the Bible, gives us light!



(Slide 8 – 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!*

MISSIONS FOCUS



(Slide 9 – Bibles International)

Bibles International wants people all around the world to know that the Bible gives light. However, not everyone has a Bible in their own language. How can they read and hear it, if it's not translated into their own language?



(Slide 10 – Day People of Chad, Africa)

So, Bibles International has been working with a group of people in Africa, called the Day (DYE), to translate the Bible into their language. It will be finished this year (2026), and all of the churches will celebrate!

Let's take a quick trip to Chad, Africa and learn a little more about some of the people who live there.



(Slide 11 – Kids in Chad)

Children from the Day (DYE) and other tribes in Chad are like you in some ways, but different in other ways. They have brothers and sisters to play with, but their mothers also expect them to help with the little ones. They often watch over the babies and even carry them on their backs.

Day (DYE) children love to play games with their friends. Soccer is their favorite sport, but they like to play marbles too. When they need to carry something large, they don't carry it in a bag or backpack. They carry it on their head instead!



(Slide 12 – Adults in Chad)

The children's mothers also carry heavy or large loads on their head. It's an easy way to keep their hands free or carry something else too. They enjoy sitting and talking with their friends, but they have much work to do each day. Cooking, cleaning, and taking care of children and animals takes a lot of time in Africa.

The men are busy too—clearing land for small gardens planted with peanuts, millet (a type of grain), and something like sweet potatoes. The men also find work here and there, sometimes in small factories or businesses in the towns or cities.



(Slide 13 – Day Bible Translators)

Three of the Day (DYE) men, however, have also have another job, and it's an important one. They are translators. They have the critical, time-consuming job of translating God's Word, the Bible, into their language.

The man in the center, Philippe, has spent more than thirty years translating the New Testament and then the Old Testament into Day (DYE). Moise (MOI-seh), on the left, and Salomon, on the right, have also worked with him for many years. This work could not be done without their faithfulness. Philippe is an elderly man now, but he is praying that he will hold the translated Bible before he dies. We should pray for that too.



(Slide 14 – Day Churches)

There are more than 18 churches throughout the Day (DYE) villages. Some are larger, and some are smaller. Some have finished buildings, and some are not finished yet, but the Day (DYE) believers love gathering together in those buildings to sing, pray, and memorize Bible verses.

The women and girls usually sit on one side on mats on the floor, with the men and boys on the other side on benches of wood or even bricks. No matter where they sit or what they sit on, they love to listen to God’s Word, and they look forward to having the whole Bible in their language very soon!

MISSIONS STORY



(Slide 15 – Daniel's Journey: Love & Generosity)

One of the boys in these churches is Daniel. He has been saving up his money to buy a Bible when it is fully translated into his language. He has also been learning to listen to God’s voice and follow Him wherever He leads.



(Slide 16 – Daniel's Gift)

Daniel has learned how important it is to put his faith into action. He has also learned to confess his sin to God, who always forgives. Today, in the third part of his story, Daniel learns about love and generosity. It's called "Daniel's Gift."

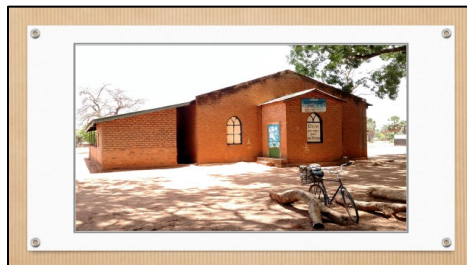


(Slide 17 – Mama cooking)

Mama always woke up early, especially on Sunday mornings. She had already started a fire in the cooking hut, and a black pot was placed over it. Cornmeal porridge was thickening in the boiling water.

Daniel whistled softly in the dim morning light as he got ready for church. Sundays were his favorite day of the week. They would go to church this morning!

Daniel moved quietly in the little round house. Papa was still asleep. He had staggered home drunk late last night and flopped on his mat. He would probably still be sleeping when Daniel and Mama returned home from church.



(Slide 18 – Church building)

Daniel and Mama walked side-by-side through the village to reach their church. A sign on the building gave the name of the Baptist church. Another sign below it, written in French, said, "Jesus died for your sins."

Mama joined the other adults inside the concrete block building for their class, but Daniel remained outside. He walked toward the largest mango tree and sat with the other children on woven rugs placed on the dusty ground.



(Slide 19 – Children’s class outdoors)

Daniel’s teacher waited for a few more children to arrive before beginning the lesson. “It seems everyone is here now,” the teacher began. “Good morning, children!”

“Good morning, Mr. Madji (MAHD-jee),” the children politely responded in French.

“Today’s lesson continues in Hebrews 11,” he said as he opened his New Testament Bible. “Did you bring your Day (DYE) New Testament this morning?”

“My mother has our New Testament,” Daniel answered. A few of the children said the same thing, but the rest of the children shook their head, no.

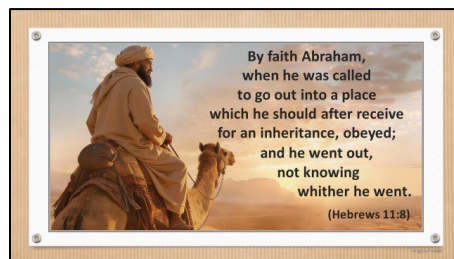


(Slide 20 – Mr. Madji and children’s class)

“This is not a problem,” Mr. Madji said kindly. “We will take turns reading.”

The teacher was happy to have his own copy of the New Testament translated into Day (DYE), but he knew that some families did not have one.

Mr. Madji handed Daniel his copy and asked, “Daniel, would you read a verse, please? Hebrews 11:8,” he instructed.



(Slide 21 – Hebrews 11:8)

Daniel read slowly but confidently, “By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. (Hebrews 11:8)”

“Abraham had great faith,” Mr. Madji said. “He left his homeland to go to an unknown place because He trusted God and obeyed Him. Abraham didn’t know where God was leading him or what God would have him do next, but he believed God would help him every step of the way.”

Daniel started thinking of his own life: He had trusted in God and given his life to Him. He asked Jesus to forgive him when he sinned. He was making the wrong things in his life right and trying to obey Him. Now he needed to keep trusting and obeying God every day.

Just like Abraham, Daniel didn’t know where God would lead him or what He would have him do, but he knew that God would show him and help him every day.



(Slide 22 – Mr. Madji teaching)

Mr. Madji continued teaching the children. “God took care of Abraham and blessed him in many ways. Abraham knew that everything he had actually came from God, so he gave back to God a portion (a tenth) of all he had. Abraham was even willing to give God his son Isaac, whom he loved so much. But Abraham loved God even more.”

Mr. Madji paused and then added, “Like Abraham, we must give to God, too—our lives first, but also all the things that matter to us the most. We must be willing to give Him what we have. And when we are willing, he shows us what to do with it.”



(Slide 23 – Can of coins)

Daniel immediately thought of the money he was saving in the little tin can under his sleeping mat. He had been working hard and saving as much money as he could, so that he could buy a whole Bible, the New Testament and the Old Testament together, when it was completely translated into his language.

Daniel knew it was good to save up money for a Bible, but also knew that he could give part of that money to God now, just like Abraham gave part of his wealth to God. Daniel decided he would do that, too, and right away.

The children's class was barely finished when Daniel jumped off the mat, shoved on his flip-flops, and started running home.



(Slide 24 – Daniel's round hut)

Daniel was glad his family didn't live too far from the church. He ran through the village as fast as he could, slowing down as he approached their little house. Hopefully, Papa was still sleeping.

Quietly moving the curtain hanging in the doorway, he cautiously peeked inside. Hearing a snore, Daniel squeezed through the opening, trying to keep out as much sunlight as possible. It was starting to get warm inside the little house as the sun beat down on the thatched roof.



(Slide 25 – Sleeping mat in hut)

Daniel's footsteps were quiet on the dirt floor, but his heart pounded loudly in his chest. *Was it loud enough to wake Papa up?* Daniel wondered.

He took a deep breath and prayed that God would protect his savings and keep Papa asleep. The boy loved his father, but it was very hard for the family when Papa spent so much of their money on alcohol at the bar.

Daniel pulled up the edge of his sleeping mat and carefully took three coins out of the can. Then he smoothed the mat back in place, and ran back to church as quickly as he could, thanking God for keeping his father asleep.



(Slide 26 – Church service)

Daniel found Mama sitting on a woven mat on the floor with the rest of the women and girls. He handed her two of the coins so she could have something for the offering. He would put the last coin in the offering himself.

Then Daniel hurried to sit with the men and boys on their side of the building. He slid into his seat just as a man was walking to the pulpit to lead the music.

Later in the service, before the offering was collected, Pastor Nouba (NEW-bah) read several verses from II Corinthians 8. “Even though the believers in the churches were poor,” he said, “they still gave to God. They gave as much as they could, and then they gave even more. They gave willingly, with joy, the Bible says. But first, they gave themselves to the Lord.”

Daniel prayed silently along with Pastor Nouba that God would use his small gift. With a tender heart, he added, “I give myself to you, Heavenly Father, along with my coin.” Daniel dropped the coin in the offering bowl.



(Slide 27 – School children; School teacher)

The next day was Monday, and Daniel got ready for school. He waved goodbye to his mother after finishing his morning chores and hurried down the road. He carried his school notebook—worn with much use—in his hands, but his pencil was safely tucked in the pocket of his uniform.

Daniel joined the other children waiting to enter the modest school building.

“Hi, Amadou (AH-mah-doo)!” he said when he saw his school friend. Then he added the customary greeting of people throughout Africa. “How are you and your family?”

“We’re fine,” Amadou answered, “but I almost decided to stay home today.”

“Are you not feeling well?” Daniel asked.



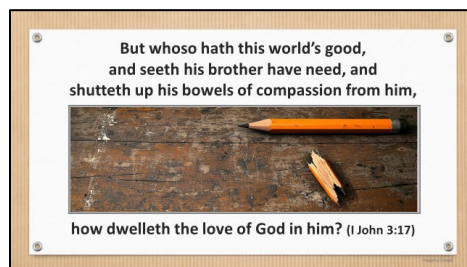
(Slide 28 – Daniel & boys)

“I’m fine,” Amadou (AH-mah-doo) began, but continued with sadness. “It’s just that I don’t have a pencil for school. I think it fell out of my pocket,” he said pointing to his yellow shirt. “One of our goats probably ate it.” One of the boys nearby laughed when he heard that.

It did sound funny when Amadou said it, but Daniel knew that it wasn’t funny at all. Pencils in the boys’ village in Africa were expensive, and families didn’t have extra money to spend on things like lost pencils. How would his friend do his schoolwork now without one?

“We can sit together,” Daniel offered. “You can share my pencil.” Amadou thanked him with a smile.

That morning at school, Daniel could hardly concentrate on his lessons. It wasn’t because he had to share his pencil. That was working out fine. All he could think about was the can of coins hidden under his sleeping mat. There was enough money in it to buy four pencils!



(Slide 29 – 1 John 3:17)

A verse Pastor Nouba had read, 1 John 3:17, rang in his ears: “But whoso hath this world’s good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?”

Daniel knew just what that verse meant—that he should share with his friend. But some worries swirled in his head. *Amadou is not my physical brother. He's not even my spiritual brother. He's Muslim! I see his need, and I want to show him God's love, but I'm trying to save my money for a Bible!*

Daniel prayed for help, and his mind became calm. *I can't let my heart get hardened! God can help me sell more doughnuts or do more work. He can help me save money for a Bible.*



(Slide 30 – Women pounding corn)

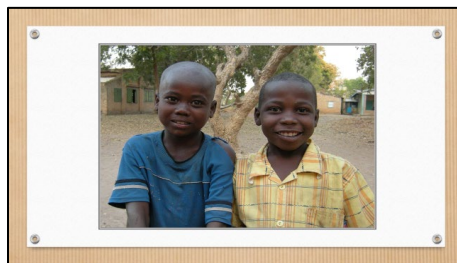
As soon as school dismissed for the long break time, Daniel ran home. Papa was nowhere in sight, but Mama was pounding corn with some of the other women.

“Why aren’t you in school?” Mama called out, then followed him to the door.

“I need a pencil,” Daniel answered. He hurried inside the house and took a coin from its hiding place under his sleeping mat. Mama raised her eyebrows but didn’t say a word.

“I need to buy Amadou a pencil. God wants me to do this, Mama,” Daniel explained. “He wants me to show His love to Amadou and keep my heart tender. I have to obey God.”

Mama smiled, her eyes glistening. “Go ahead, Daniel. Follow God. He will help us have enough one day for a Bible.”



(Slide 31 – Daniel & Amadou)

On the way back to school, the African boy ran to the little corner store and bought a new, sharpened pencil. His heart felt light as he hurried back to the classroom in time to join Amadou for the next subject.

Daniel handed the new pencil to Amadou. “For you to keep,” was all he said.

Amadou looked surprised and full of questions, but the math lesson had just started. The boys quickly picked up their pencils and wrote down the numbers called out by the school teacher.

Daniel silently prayed, “Keep your love alive and well in my heart, Heavenly Father.”



(Slide 32 – Love & Generosity)

Daniel showed his love for his Muslim friend by buying him a pencil. Even though Daniel could have kept that money for himself (he had a very good reason—saving for a Bible), he followed God’s leading in his life. He obeyed God when God spoke him through a verse in the Bible.

Daniel gave another gift too. He put one of his coins in the offering at church and gave his mother two coins to put in the offering. This was his gift to God. God wants us to show our love to Him and to others and to be generous as well. Are you showing God’s love? Are you being generous?

MISSIONS PROJECT



(Slide 33 – Bibles International)

Bibles International wants everyone to know of God’s love. They want 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!



(Slide 34 – 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 35 – How can you help?)

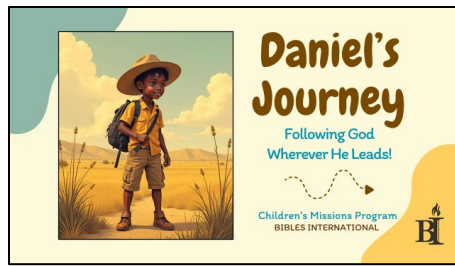
Would you like to help the work of Bibles International? There are two ways you can help. You can give, and you can pray. You can give some of your money to help people have a Bible. You can also pray that the Bible will be translated into other languages and that people will read and obey God's Word.



(Slide 36 – 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 37 – 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 and however He leads you?

Optional

- Distribute Lesson 3 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.