

Daniel's Journey

~ Children's Missions Program ~



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INTERNATIONAL

The Bible Society of Baptist Mid-Missions

Daniel's Journey



Bibles International
2026 Children's Missions Program & Project

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Also available from Bibles International:

The Toolbox

A Walk in the Dark

People, Plain & Tall

People, Plain & Tall: Chad, Africa

Creole's Cookin'

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BIBLES INTERNATIONAL

The Bible Society of Baptist Mid-Missions
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Teacher's Guide

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Program Overview

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to *Daniel's Journey*, a gospel-centered, missions-focused children's program created by Bibles International to introduce children to our great God and encourage them to follow Him completely.

In this series of five lessons with visuals and activities, the children in your ministry will join Daniel on his journey—a physical journey as he saves money to buy a Bible in his own language, but also a spiritual journey as he learns to follow God fully, trusting and obeying His leading every day.

The Children's Missions Project gives your children the opportunity to put their own faith into action and help Bibles International print and ship the Bibles they have translated around the world for people who have never had God's Word in their own language.

MINISTRY USE

The *Daniel's Journey* Children's Missions Program material is perfect for use in a wide variety of children's ministries, whether in your church, community, or home.

- Church – Children's classes, missions program, VBS
- Community – After-school programs, outreach events, Christian schooling
- Home – Homeschooling, family devotions, time with grandchildren

The scripted lessons and accompanying visuals and activities have been designed with flexibility in mind. You can use them exactly as they have been prepared or incorporate them into your existing children's program. You can also present the missions stories alone if you have a limited amount of time.

PROGRAM MATERIALS

Daniel's Journey program materials include five scripted lessons and their corresponding PowerPoint visuals, as well as activity sheets for younger and older children that are designed to reinforce the program theme and lessons. Additional program resources include various take-home papers to use as program invitations, missions project reminders, prayer prompts, and more.

These free materials can be downloaded at www.biblesint.org/daniels-journey. If you wish to modify or customize the PowerPoint slides, activity sheets, or take-home papers, you may do so. We only ask that you preserve the accuracy and integrity of the information.

LESSONS & MISSIONS STORIES

As your children follow Daniel's physical journey of saving money to buy a Bible in his language, they will join him in a spiritual journey as well. Together, they will learn to follow God fully, trusting and obeying His leading every day.

Each lesson contributes to the program theme by teaching important spiritual concepts and demonstrating how they are lived out. Each lesson takes about 25 minutes to present. The Lesson Materials section of the Teacher's Guide provides more information on how the following key concepts are presented in the lessons.

- Lesson 1 – Faith & Action
- Lesson 2 – Confession & Forgiveness
- Lesson 3 – Love & Generosity
- Lesson 4 – Faithfulness & Blessing
- Lesson 5 – Patience & Perseverance

MISSIONS PROJECT

We invite the children in your ministry to participate in the Bibles International Children's Missions Project presented in the *Daniel's Journey* material. Information on this project is presented at the end of each lesson and also in the Missions Project section of the Teacher's Guide.

Although giving is optional, we know your children will be excited to help other children and adults around the world receive a Bible that they can hold and read for themselves, a Bible that is translated into their mother tongue. All of the money given will go directly to the printing and distribution needs of one of our Bible translation projects.

Gifts can be sent online or by mail. Please contact us at (616) 942-7712 if you have questions.

- www.biblesint.org/give (Designation: BI-Children's Missions Project)
- Bibles International 2026 Children's Missions Project
609 36th Street SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49548

THEME VERSE

We encourage you to teach the selected Bible verse below to your children so they can learn God's Word, apply it to their lives, and share it with others. The verse is taught in each lesson and included in the PowerPoint files.

Proverbs 3:5-6 (KJV) "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."

THEME SONG

The program theme song, "God's Word Gives Light," was written and composed by Becky and Glenn Kerr of Bibles International. Sheet music has been provided, as well as a PowerPoint slide with the lyrics.

If you are not able to use the song in your program, we recommend reading the lyrics to the children as an excellent poem to guide their lives.

Lesson Materials

OVERALL THEME

In the *Daniel's Journey* Children's Missions Program, the children in your ministry will meet an African boy named Daniel on a journey—a physical journey as he saves money to buy a Bible in his own language, but also a spiritual journey as he learns to follow God fully, trusting and obeying His leading every day.

We want your children to begin their *own* journey of trusting God for salvation and then live in obedience to His Word, following Him daily throughout the journey of their lives. Even though the lessons have been written with this in mind, we encourage you to plan time into your program to present or reinforce the gospel, encourage spiritual conversations, and discuss the practical application of God's Word to their young lives.

LESSON MATERIALS

The five scripted lessons can be presented as a continuing series or used as independent lessons. They have been written with elementary children in mind, but they can also be used and adapted for an older audience. If you need to shorten, lengthen, or otherwise adapt the prepared material, you may do so. However, please be careful to maintain the accuracy and integrity of the material and of the ministry of Bibles International.

Each lesson will take approximately 25 minutes and is designed to be read from either paper or electronic device. The corresponding PowerPoint visuals can be shown on a laptop or large screen. Both the scripted lessons and visuals are easy to use. Simply show the slide and read the prepared text.

LESSON OVERVIEW

Lesson 1: "Daniel's Faith" – Key concept: Faith & Action

- **Introduction** – Presents the program theme of following God and lesson theme of putting faith into action. Discusses the journey of life and the need to be saved and follow God.
- **Missions Focus** – Introduces the Day people of Chad, Africa, their language, and the need for the Bible in their language.
- **Missions Story** – Introduces a Day boy named Daniel, who has trusted Christ as his Savior and wants to buy a Bible in his own language (Day) when the translation is completed. He decides to earn and save money for it.
- **Missions Project** – Presents children with the opportunity to help other children have a Bible in their own language.

Lesson 2: “Daniel’s Confession” – Key concept: Confession & Forgiveness

- **Introduction** – Reinforces the program theme of following God and lesson theme of confession and forgiveness. Presents the Bible as our map and guide from God that keeps us on the path and warns us of dangers along our spiritual journey.
- **Missions Focus** – Presents the climate, village life, and dangers to the Day people.
- **Missions Story** – Teaches the importance of confession, forgiveness, and restitution after Daniel steals an egg. Daniel also learns about the need for Bible translation and the importance of reading God’s Word.
- **Missions Project** – Encourages children to help others have a Bible in their language.

Lesson 3: “Daniel’s Gift” – Key concept: Love & Generosity

- **Introduction** – Reinforces the program theme of following God and lesson theme of love and generosity. Discusses God’s love for us and His desire for us to show love and generosity to others.
- **Missions Focus** – Talks about Day children and adults, Bible translators, and churches.
- **Missions Story** – Explores how Daniel learns to trust God and follow Him. He demonstrates love and generosity by taking money from his Bible savings, gives some back to God in the church offering, and buys a pencil for his Muslim friend.
- **Missions Project** – Encourages children to help others have a Bible in their language.

Lesson 4: “Daniel’s Blessing” – Key concept: Faithfulness & Blessing

- **Introduction** – Reinforces the program theme of following God and lesson theme of faithfulness and blessing. Teaches that as we travel the path God has laid out for us and are faithful to Him, we also see how He is faithful to us and blesses us.
- **Missions Focus** – Discusses food and farming in Chad, translation work, and believers preparing themselves for the translated Bible.
- **Missions Story** – Reveals how Daniel’s faithfulness in following God results in a blessing, when he is forgiven by the egg seller and given the flour he needs. He is then able to bless the translators with beignets at tea time.
- **Missions Project** – Encourages children to help others have a Bible in their language.

Lesson 5: “Daniel’s Decision” – Key concept: Patience & Perseverance

- **Introduction** – Reinforces the program theme of following God and lesson theme of patience and perseverance. Explains that the Bible is the spiritual compass that points to God and helps us follow Him. He strengthens us on the journey and wants us to bring others to Him.
- **Missions Focus** – Explores the topics of African snacks, expressions, the New Testament dedication, and the need for the complete Word of God.
- **Missions Story** – Illustrates faith as Daniel decides to use the last of his Bible savings to buy medicine for his ill baby sister. Yet he remains strong in his desire to begin saving money again, trusting that God will help him buy a Bible.
- **Missions Project** – Encourages children to help others have a Bible in their language.

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Several foreign words and names, many of them coming from the French language, are used in the lessons. Their pronunciation is provided below and in the lesson scripts.

Beignets	(<i>BEN-yay</i>) <i>Note: The “s” is silent.</i>
Day people	(<i>DYE</i>)
Pastor Nouba	(<i>NEW-bah</i>)
Amadou	(<i>AH-mah-doo</i>)
Mr. Madji	(<i>MAHD-jee</i>)

LESSON VISUALS

PowerPoint visuals have been created for each lesson and are available on our website. You can customize these slides or integrate them into your own presentation, just be careful to preserve the accuracy and integrity of the information and ministry of Bibles International.

ACTIVITY SHEETS

Each lesson has an optional activity sheet to reinforce the key concept and missions story. *Daniel’s Journey* activity sheets feature a variety of activities, such as coloring pages, translation and writing exercises, mazes, word puzzles, and more. The activity sheets typically feature both a simpler and a more advanced version to suit a variety of ages and abilities. Solutions to the activity sheets are provided. Extra activity sheets are also provided.

Although they can be completed at home, we recommend that the lesson activity sheets be completed during the children’s program so that the teacher can provide any needed assistance and reinforce key lesson concepts through discussion.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

The following take-home papers are designed to supplement the main program materials.

- Children’s Program Flyer – Use as a program invitation or reminder.
- Missions Project Card – Encourage children to give to the missions project.
- Missions Project Recognition Card – Recognize each child’s gift, no matter the size.
- Prayer Prompter Card – Remind children to pray for those who need Bibles.
- Can of Coins Label – Make your own “can of coins” to save up money like Daniel.
- Day Translation Station Handout – Take home a summary of the Day Bible project.

DOWNLOAD FILE LOCATION

You can download all of the scripted lessons, PowerPoint visuals, activity sheets, take-home papers, and additional resources at www.biblesint.org/daniels-journey. Please note that some of the files may not automatically open on your screen but instead save directly to your Downloads folder. If you would like to modify one of the PDF files, please contact us for the original file or for assistance.

Missions Project & Focus

MISSIONS PROJECT

Throughout the *Daniel's Journey* Children's Missions Program, children will learn about the Day people of Chad, Africa and their partnership with Bibles International to translate the Bible into their language. The New Testament translation was completed in 1999, and their attention then turned to the Old Testament.

We praise the Lord that the entire Bible has now been translated into the Day language. In 2026, it will be printed, shipped, and distributed throughout the Day community. The Day will soon be celebrating this milestone with a special Bible dedication service.

We also celebrate that the Day Bible project has been fully funded. However, there are many more Bible translation projects at Bibles International that need your financial help. We encourage your children to participate in the Children's Missions Project.

While giving is optional, we know that the children in your ministry will be excited to help other children and adults around the world receive a Bible that they can hold and read and hear for themselves, a Bible that is translated into their mother tongue.



You can help Bibles International by inviting the children in your home and ministry to participate in the 2026 Children's Missions Project. By giving \$10 per Bible, your children are covering the printing and shipping expenses of the Bibles translated by Bibles International. Your gift helps us make God's Word accessible to people around the world in their mother tongue.

Every gift given, no matter the size, is a great help and bring us one step closer to our goal of "a reliable Bible translation in every language and a Bible in every hand."

Gifts can be sent online or by mail. Please contact us at (616) 942-7712 if you have questions.

- www.biblesint.org/give (Designation: BI-Children's Missions Project)
- Bibles International 2026 Children's Missions Project
609 36th Street SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49548

MISSIONS FOCUS: THE DAY PEOPLE OF CHAD, AFRICA

The Day (*pronounced DYE*) community resides around the city of Sarh in southwest Chad and numbers nearly 50,000 people. Originally from the East, their ancestors discovered good territory for hunting and cultivating and settled there. To this day, the Day people primarily farm, though some also work in factories and government positions. Fifty-eight percent of the population profess Christianity, 34% of whom claim to be evangelical, while 35% follow Islam, and a much smaller 7% adhere to animism.

DAY BIBLE TRANSLATION

The gospel first arrived in the region through the efforts of Baptist Mid-Missions missionary Paul Metzler. Although a German missionary completed the first Day New Testament in 1989, the Day people had difficulty understanding the text because of its paraphrased translation work. Meanwhile, BMM missionaries began working with Day believers to translate the New Testament in 1983. Bibles International gained ownership of this New Testament work and adopted the Day project in 1989.

The dedication of the completed Day New Testament was held in Sarh, Chad on December 5, 1999. Former BI director Fred Carlson, who had led the New Testament translation to its completion, preached to about 2,000 attendees, including many national and local government representatives. The Day believers received the translation with great enthusiasm.

With the completion of the New Testament, the translation work has focused on the Old Testament. Many BI consultants and Day translators have worked steadily and tirelessly throughout the years to bring the complete Bible to the Day people. Final checks on the Old Testament are being completed, and the Bible will be formatted. The Day Bible will then be printed and shipped to southern Chad, where the Day community will dedicate its use to the Lord. This dedication is expected in 2026.

DAY LITERACY

Along with the translation process, BI has worked with the Day people in the area of literacy through the publication of two primers, the first in 1992 and the second in 1994. Completely sold out of the first printings, both primers passed through revisions and reprinting in 2013. Before BI's involvement, only an estimated 20% of the Day people could read their language. The literacy improvement efforts have produced an estimated 70% literacy rate among the Day speakers.

DAY PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray for the final stage of the Day Bible project, specifically that the Bible will be printed correctly, shipped securely, received in country without delay or opposition, and distributed among the Day people. Pray for the Bible dedication service which will be attended by a large number of believers and unbelievers. Pray for God to work mightily among the Day community through the power of His translated Word!

Program Enhancements

We would love for you to enhance our *Daniel's Journey* Children's Mission Program through themed decor and a special display for the Children's Missions Project. If you have extra time in your children's session, you can extend the program material by adding related Bible stories, small-group discussion, crafts, games, and snacks.

PROGRAM DECOR

You'll find it easy to decorate your children's meeting room or entryway to coordinate with the *Daniel's Journey* theme. A simple internet search of key words, such as journey, trip, travel, camping, and hiking, will yield a variety of creative decorating ideas for every budget. Internet sites like Pinterest will give you many ideas for decor, food, crafts, games, and other activities. Other online sites, such as Oriental Trading Company, and physical stores, like party and dollar stores, can provide you with affordable, ready-made decor and other products to use during your program.

MISSIONS PROJECT DISPLAY

Creating a special missions project display would be a wonderful addition to your program. The display will not only decorate your space, but also remind children of the project, increasing their interest and excitement. Consider displaying a backpack, hat, map, compass, Bible, and globe. African fabrics and other decorative items can also enhance your decor.

BIBLE STORIES & SMALL-GROUP DISCUSSION

You can add a specific Bible story or Scripture passage to reinforce the program or lesson theme and coordinate with the missions story in each lesson. Small-group discussions based on the program themes and missions stories will help you determine the spiritual condition of your children and provide practical applications to their lives.

CRAFTS, GAMES, & OTHER ACTIVITIES

If you have additional time during your children's event, you can plan various crafts, games, or additional activities that relate to the program theme, missions stories, and missions project. Active indoor or outdoor games are always enjoyed by children of all ages, while crafts and other table activities can provide opportunities to reinforce the presented material and foster spiritual conversations. A service project held during or after your children's event would encourage them to apply what they have learned.

FOOD

Consider adding a snack or light meal that connects with the country or culture presented in the material. You could make a recipe from Africa in general or Chad specifically, or purchase special international treats from a local store. Since beignets are referred to throughout the *Daniel's Journey* lessons, making this recipe or purchasing doughnut balls would be a great treat for the children.

Theme Song

God's Word Gives Light

Becky and Glenn Kerr

The en-trance of God's Word gives light To those who walk in

The first system of musical notation for the song. It consists of a treble and bass clef staff with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "The en-trance of God's Word gives light To those who walk in".

dark-est night. It guides their feet and gives them sight; Oh, the

The second system of musical notation. The melody continues from the first system. The lyrics are: "dark-est night. It guides their feet and gives them sight; Oh, the".

Fine
en-trance of—God's Word gives light. I want my life to

The third system of musical notation. It begins with the word "Fine" above the staff. The melody concludes with a double bar line. The lyrics are: "en-trance 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

The fourth system of musical notation. The melody continues. The lyrics are: "show God's Word. I'll read His Book each day.— I'll live my life to".

D.C. al Fine
show the truth that Je - sus is the Way.—

The fifth system of musical notation. It begins with the instruction "D.C. al Fine" above the staff. The melody concludes with a double bar line. The lyrics are: "show the truth that Je - sus is the Way.—".

Conclusion

Thank you for your interest in the *Daniel's Journey* Children's Missions Program. We pray that this material is a blessing to the children in your church, community, and home and to the volunteers that make your ministry possible.

At Bibles International, we are committed to spreading the gospel around the world and strengthening churches through Bible translation and Scripture engagement. Our vision of "a reliable Bible translation in every language and a Bible in every hand" is the driving force behind our ministry to adults and children worldwide.

Thank you for using this material to share God's Word with your children and to teach them about the critical need for missions work in every country and Bible translation in every language. We also thank you for encouraging them to give to our Bible translation and literacy projects. Every gift given, no matter the size, enables us to continue partnering with nationals to translate, print, and share God's Word around the world.

All of our children's material is free and available for download from our website at www.biblesint.org/childrens-materials. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like assistance with any of our children's programs. You can also contact us to discuss how we can further introduce your children to the fascinating process of Bible translation and the people around the world who are facilitating it.

We encourage you to provide feedback on the *Daniel's Journey* material. Your constructive comments, whether before or after using it, will help us continue to develop quality material and assist you more effectively in your children's ministry.

God bless you as you seek to bring children to a saving knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ and to guide them to spiritual maturity and lifelong Christian service. Your work truly is important!

*"One generation shall praise Thy works to another,
and shall declare Thy mighty acts."
(Psalm 145:4)*



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