

JUNIOR BIBLE TEACHER +

For Teachers of Children
Ages 9 Through 11



September
October
November

FALL
2024

Junior Bible Teacher⁺

FALL QUARTER

September, October, November 2024

How to Use *Junior Bible Teacher*⁺ 2

TWO PROPHETS OF GOD

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ISBN 978-1-64495-602-1

Price: \$4.89 per quarter*
**shipping and handling extra*

Edited and published quarterly by
LIFESTONE MINISTRIES | UNION GOSPEL PRESS DIVISION
 Rev. W. B. Musselman, Founder

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Dear Junior Teacher,

Welcome to *Junior Bible Teacher*⁺! As witnesses for Christ in a changing world, we have to think creatively about how we minister, while still holding firmly to the Word of Truth. Our Plus Series contains the same robust Bible lessons and background information that you love, but they have been carefully crafted to help you excite your students to learn God's Word.

Here are a few old favorites reimagined:

- The **Big Idea** is the main point of the lesson (replacing the Purpose).
 - **Prepare Your Mind** and **Prepare Your Heart** will prepare you to teach with background information and a short devotional (replacing Approaching the Lesson).
 - **Explaining the Memory Verse** explains the Scripture in language familiar to juniors (replacing Talking about the Golden Text).
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PURPOSE



Big Idea: God wants us to remember His blessings.

APPROACHING THE LESSON



Prepare Your Mind

Prepare Your Heart

TALKING ABOUT THE GOLDEN TEXT



Explaining the Memory Verse

Here are some new features:

- **Introductory pages** for each unit will point toward the quarter's major themes.
- **Supplies** and **Prepare the Room** give teachers all the practical information they need to prepare for class time.
- The **Conversation Starter** helps you kick off your class and get your students invested in the lesson.
- **Discussion Questions** help students engage with the Scriptures intellectually and emotionally throughout the lesson. These questions appear in both the class and teacher books.
- **Teacher Tips** in the lesson will give you short ways on how to involve your students or deal with difficult subject matter.
- **Just Curious** prepares you to respond to questions students might ask about the lesson.
- **Prop Prompt** symbols notify you when to use a prop in the supply list at the beginning of the lesson. All props and supplies are in **bold** the first time they appear.
- **Action** symbols help you see opportunities to invite your class to take part in the lesson.
- The **Activity** helps juniors get their energy out while thinking about the lesson.
- The **Big Question** addresses common doubts or fears junior students might have about God and His Word from a biblical worldview.
- **Next Steps** help your students apply the lesson to their lives.
- **Prayer Points** give teachers some prompts to pray for the students.
- The **Christ Focus** encourages thought about how the Scripture passage and lesson point to our loving Savior.
- **Bonus activity pages** for your students will be included each quarter as supplements in the back of this book.

KEY:

Teacher Tips



Just Curious



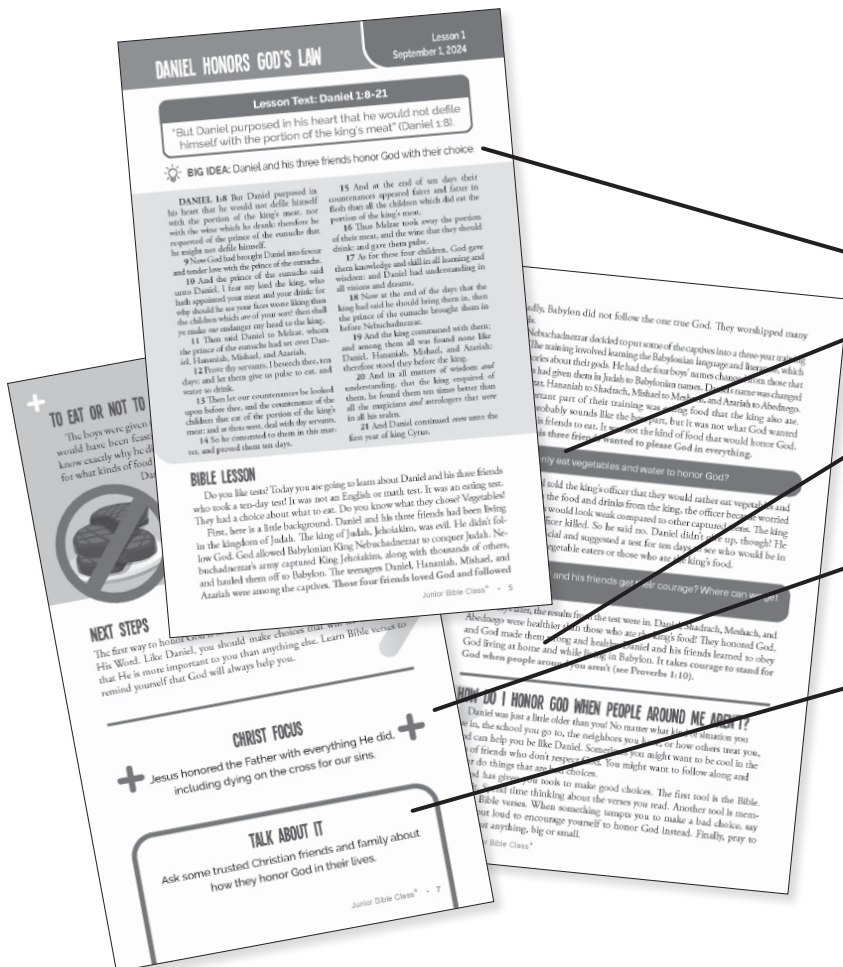
Prop Prompts



Actions



Discussion Questions



Here's a peek at the new Junior Bible Class⁺:

- The **Big Idea** helps the student focus on the main point of the lesson.
- **Discussion Questions** are interjected within the Bible lesson to help students engage with the Scriptures intellectually and emotionally.
- The **Big Question** addresses common doubts or fears junior students might have about God and His Word from a biblical worldview.
- The **Christ Focus** encourages thought about how the Scripture passage and lesson point to our loving Savior.
- **Talk About It** prompts students to engage Christian adults in their life in conversation about God's Word.

UNIT I:

Faithful Service of Daniel and Friends

Lesson 1: Daniel 1:8-21

Daniel Honors God's Law

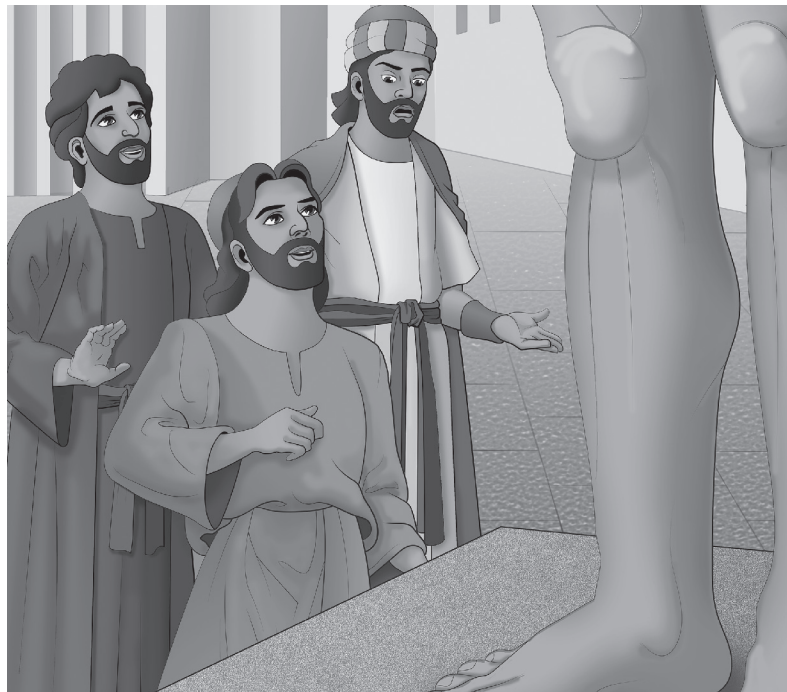
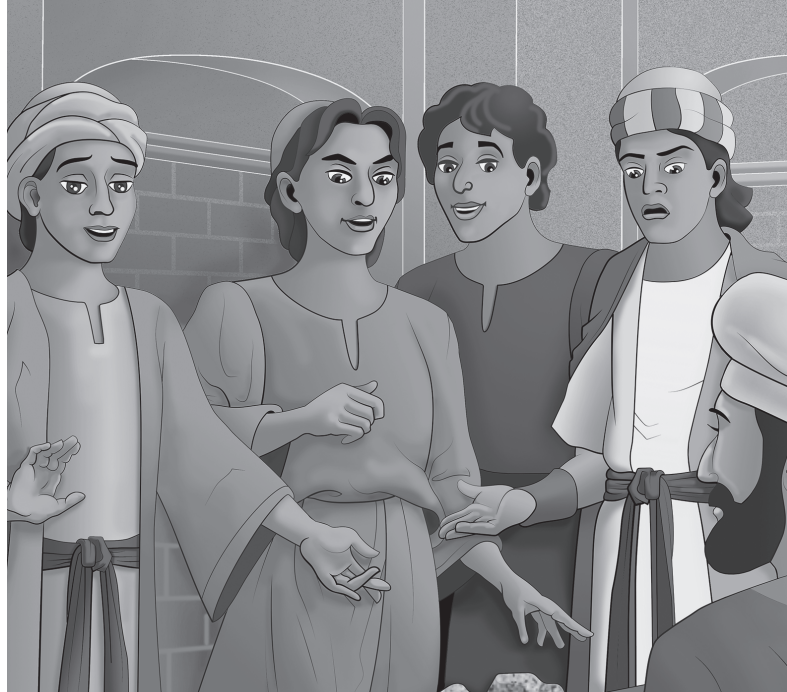
Lesson 2: Daniel 3:1, 8-18

Daniel's Friends Will Not Bow

Lesson 3: Daniel 3:19-28

Daniel's Friends Trust God

Your students hear many voices from the culture that tell them to live counter to the way God would have them live. As we see from the lessons in this unit, standing for God is not always easy. In many ways, it is good to know the battle is not new. God has strengthened His people in times of persecution and fierce cultural hostility to faith in the one True God. Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah show us that standing for God can be done even in the hardest times. This encourages us to remain faithful to the Lord.



“ But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat (Daniel 1:8). ”



Big Idea: Daniel and his three friends honor God with their choice.

DANIEL 1:8 But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.

9 Now God had brought Daniel into favour and tender love with the prince of the eunuchs.

10 And the prince of the eunuchs said unto Daniel, I fear my lord the king, who hath appointed your meat and your drink: for why should he see your faces worse liking than the children which *are* of your sort? then shall ye make *me* endanger my head to the king.

11 Then said Daniel to Melzar, whom the prince of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah,

12 Prove thy servants, I beseech thee, ten days; and let them give us pulse to eat, and water to drink.

13 Then let our countenances be looked upon before thee, and the countenance of the children that eat of the portion of the king's meat: and as thou seest, deal with thy servants.

14 So he consented to them in this matter, and proved them ten days.

15 And at the end of ten days their countenances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat.

16 Thus Melzar took away the portion of their meat, and the wine that they should drink; and gave them pulse.

17 As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.

18 Now at the end of the days that the king had said he should bring them in, then the prince of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar.

19 And the king communed with them; and among them all was found none like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah: therefore stood they before the king.

20 And in all matters of wisdom *and* understanding, that the king enquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians *and* astrologers that *were* in all his realm.

21 And Daniel continued *even* unto the first year of king Cyrus.

Prepare Your Mind

It was a sad time for Judah. Many people had chosen to follow King Jehoiakim's bad example by worshipping false gods. God repeatedly warned them about their disobedience, but many didn't listen. So God allowed Jehoiakim and the kingdom of Judah to be defeated by the Babylonians and taken into exile.

King Nebuchadnezzar commanded that the brightest and most handsome captives be educated and taught to serve in the Babylonian courts. The king planned a course of study for those young men. Daniel had the opportunity to acquire the best possible education of the day. We are not told specifically the reason for refusing the king's food, but we do know that Daniel believed he would be defiled and dishonor God if he ate the food that the king provided.

Prepare Your Heart

We may not be fans of exercise, but we want to stay fit and strong even when we are old. Starting can be difficult, but the more the muscles get worked, the easier it is.

It's the same with strengthening the "honoring God" muscles. The more we choose Him over other things and study His Word, the stronger we grow. Jesus said to seek God's kingdom first and His righteousness, and everything else would follow. Pray that your students begin following God now, just as Daniel and his three friends did.



Supplies

- pictures of food items
- beach ball
- timer (optional)



Conversation Starter

Hold up **pictures of food items**, two at a time. Have students raise their hands for the foods they would rather eat. Discuss whether students felt pressured to choose one over the other.