



Helping Kids Grow in Goodness God's Way

When Choosing Right Isn't Easy

Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Retell the story of Daniel choosing to follow God.
2. Explain that goodness means choosing what is right and pleasing to God, even when it's hard.
3. Identify one way they can show goodness this week.

Scripture Focus:

- "He got down on his knees three times a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as he had done previously. (Daniel 6:10, *ESV*)
- "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." (Romans 12:21, *ESV*)

Lesson Flow (25 min)

1. Connect (3 min)

- **Opening Thought:** Ask: "Have you ever had to make a choice that was hard, but you knew it was the right thing to do? What happened?"
- **Assessment:** Teacher observes student attentiveness and willingness to share.

2. Teach (7 min)

- Read or retell the story of Daniel Choosing Goodness (Daniel 1 and 6).

Daniel was a young man who loved and obeyed God, even when life got difficult. When he was taken from his home in Judah to Babylon, the king ordered him to eat special food that went against God's law. Daniel could have gone along with everyone else, but instead he chose to honor God. He asked permission to eat vegetables and drink water instead. God blessed him with wisdom, strength, and favor, showing that obedience brings blessing.

Later, Daniel faced an even harder test. A new law said no one could pray to God. But Daniel still prayed three times a day, just as he always had, because he loved God more than he feared punishment. His enemies saw him and told the king, who threw Daniel into a den of lions. But God protected him. The lions didn't hurt Daniel! When the king saw that Daniel was safe, he praised God for His goodness and power.

- **Discussion Questions:**

1. Why did Daniel keep choosing God's way?
2. How can we choose goodness at school or at home?

- **Explain:**

- Goodness means choosing God's way even when it's not easy and trusting Him with the results.
- When we stay close to God, His Spirit gives us courage to do what's right.

- **Assessment:** Teacher checks understanding through answers and engagement.

3. **Model** (7 min)

- **Teacher shares:** a time when you chose to do the right thing even when it was hard.
- **Student activity:** Act out in role-play or Charades or draw in Pictionary scenarios like telling the truth when it's hard; including someone left out, helping someone without being asked; or standing up for what's right even when others don't.
- **Assessment:** Teacher notes engagement and ability to apply goodness to real-life examples.

4. **Pray** (2-3 min)

- *"God, thank You for showing us what true goodness looks like. Help us to choose what's right and pleasing to You, even when it's hard. Give us courage to be like Daniel and show Your goodness at school and at home."*
- **Assessment:** Teacher observes participation and reverence during prayer.

5. **Closing/Reflection** (5 min)

- **Key Takeaway:** Goodness means choosing what pleases God, especially when it's hard.
- **Student Reflection:** Have students write or share one way they can choose goodness this week—at school, at home, or with friends.
- **Teacher Closes:** Remind students that God helps us live out His goodness every day through His Spirit.
- **Assessment:** Teacher listens for thoughtful connections and real-life applications.

Optional Extension: Independent Practice

- **"Goodness Journal":** Invite students to write or draw a picture of themselves showing goodness in a hard situation—like telling the truth, sharing with a sibling, or being kind to someone who's unkind. Encourage them to thank God for helping them choose what is right.