

The Bronze Bow

By Elizabeth George Speare



Teaching Unit

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For Children's Literature

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Evaluation:

Elizabeth George Speare wrote this book for her Sunday school class. The purpose in writing this book was to make the scriptures come alive for the students. It was to aid them in getting a feel for what it would be like to live during the time when Jesus walked the earth. Personally, I think that she did an excellent job. Through the eyes of Daniel, a young Galilean zealot, I saw how it was to see Jesus without the aid of the New Testament scriptures. I saw the struggle that many faced, the struggle to understand the purpose for the Messiah's coming. He came not to establish an earthly kingdom, or free them from the oppression of the Romans, but to free them from the oppression of sin. However, one has to be careful when reading a story about the life of Jesus from sources other than that of the Bible. Yet, this story's purpose is not to be a substitute for the Gospel. Its purpose is to give students a better understanding of this period of history, and along the way the students learn valuable lessons. Some of them include loving your enemies, overcoming prejudice, acquiring patience, showing love to all and there are many more. It is evident from this story that Speare is very knowledgeable in her Scriptures. There are only a few phrases and references that are questionable, and it is important to point these out to the students.

I think that this story is valuable in the classroom for a number of reasons. One is that the story in itself is expertly written and very entertaining, another, and more important, is that the students hopefully gain more knowledge about the Scriptures. Speare quotes many of Jesus' words and parables from the Bible and that is a perfect opportunity to review these stories and passages. Another benefit is that the main characters struggle with issues that can relate to the children and these can be talked about in light and view of the Bible. Some examples include taking oaths and obeying the government.

Instruction:

This unit consists of 12 lessons with a reading assignment of two chapters for each lesson. This lesson can be incorporated for 5th through 8th graders. I have divided each lesson into four categories: vocabulary, comprehension questions, discussion topics, and activities. Each lesson varies the number of vocabulary words, questions, and discussion topics. Depending on the grade level you wish to focus on, some questions may be too difficult or too easy for some students and you can use or eliminate what you feel is appropriate. I have geared my lessons so that every topic that I deemed important in each chapter is discussed. Some may think this is to overwhelming for the students and these lessons can be modified.

The first page consists of vocabulary words and comprehension questions. This page could be handed out to the students as is. The second page of the lesson

is mainly for the teacher. It consists of discussion topics and activities; however this page also can be handed out to the students if need be. The vocabulary words are intended to increase the students' comprehension of the text and can be used for vocabulary quizzes. The questions attack all levels of thinking some are harder and while other questions are easier yet the students should be able to figure them out on their own. These questions could also be incorporated into quiz questions if need be. The discussion topics, on the other hand, are about subjects that the students might not be able to figure out on their own and that is why some guidance might be beneficial. The activities at the end of each lesson focus more on creativity and artistic abilities. These activities can either supplement or be a substitute for your art lessons. I believe that this book could be incorporated into either or all of your religion, reading, history, and art lessons quite well.

Lesson 1 Chapters 1 and 2 Read pages 1-28

Vocabulary

Zealot	Feverish
Girdle	Burly
Ruddy	Livid
Tunic	Drab
Rabbi	Fracas
Seething	Vouch
Heathen	Gourd
Caravan	Manacles

Questions

1. In the introductory paragraph, Spere summarizes the main characteristics of a Galilean while describing Daniel. What are some of these characteristics? What made the Galileans a "proud race?"
2. How long had Daniel been living in the mountains?
3. What village did Daniel come from? Why had he left his home and village?
4. From the beginning, we see that Daniel and Joel come from different social classes and different backgrounds. Despite these differences what is the one thing they realize they have in common with each other?
5. What kind of Messiah were they looking for?
6. Rosh and his band had a habit of stealing, or "saving" slaves from caravans. Why did Rosh choose this one particular slave in the second chapter? What was the name they gave to this slave?
7. What is Daniel's profession?
8. What are the two requirements to become a member in Rosh's band?
9. Would you like to become a member of Rosh's band? Why or Why not, provide reasons for your answer.
10. Write two paragraphs explaining your first impressions of Daniel and Rosh.

Discussion Topics

1. When Daniel was asked if he was lonely, he replied, "I don't live alone." Did he really answer the question? Can one be lonely even when one is not living alone?
2. Daniel had difficulty communicating with Sampson because Sampson could not speak his language. What would be some of the methods you could employ to try and communicate with someone who did not speak your language?

Activity

To know where you are going it is vital that you use a map. Many names and places of cities in Israel are mentioned in this book. To get a better picture and understanding of the cities mentioned in this book it is beneficial to have a map of Israel. Create a map of Israel with all the important geographical features. You may use the maps in the back of your Bible, on the Internet, in an encyclopedia, or anywhere you can find them. What you will be doing is picking out cities from each chapter the cities, places, mountains, etc that are mentioned and place them on your map. Upon the completion of the book I will collect your maps.

Lesson 2 Chapters 3 and 4 Read pages 29-52

Vocabulary

Quivered

Chagrined

Bellows

Oleander

Mezuzah

Rancid

Artisans

Calvary

Auxiliaries

Infidels

Moldering

Questions

1. Even though Sampson's presence benefited everyone at the camp, why did the band resent him? Daniel had his own reasons for resenting Sampson; he said that Sampson was linked to him like a "chained rock." What were Daniel's reasons for feeling this way?
2. Why did Simon come to the mountain and find Daniel?
3. Daniel tried to convince Simon to join Rosh's band. Simon refused saying that Rosh and him "didn't see eye to eye." Why didn't Simon and Rosh get along?
4. Are Daniel's mother and sister well off in the city? What are some of the clues that tell you they are not?
5. Daniel at first despises Jesus because he is from Nazareth. Who else from the Bible felt a similar way when he said, "Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?"
6. Simon told Daniel that the people in Nazareth tried to kill Jesus. Was this true? To find out read Luke 4: 14-28.
7. Why were the Roman soldiers that Daniel encountered on the road especially repulsive to him?
8. Would you characterize Daniel as impulsive? Which one of Jesus' disciples does Daniel remind you of?

Discussion Topics

1. Do you think that one of the reasons Daniel ran away was because he wanted to avoid responsibility? Do you wish sometimes that you could run away? From what would you like to run away?
2. Daniel's grandmother made her bread out of the pauper's share. Discuss this practice and give an example from the Bible when this occurred. Read Ruth 2:3-23.
3. Did Daniel understand Jesus' words when he said, "I say to you, the time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand? Repent and believe." Why didn't he understand these words?

Activity

The Jewish calendar is different from our calendar, for instance the names of their months are different and their new year occurs at a different time. Throughout the book, the Jewish month is often given, for example in chapter five, the month of Nissan is mentioned. It is beneficial to know the equivalent in our calendar year. To do this you would have to figure out the months of the Jewish calendar and our equivalent. This can be done easily by searching the Internet. Write down the Jewish months and the months that correspond to it in our calendar. Remember that the months will not correspond exactly, for instance the first month in the Jewish year is Tishri and Tishri covers part of our September and October.

Answer:

1 Tishri	30 days	September-October
2 Cheshvan	29 or 30 days	October-November
3 Kislev	30 or 29 days	November-December
4 Tevet	29 days	December-January
5 Shevat	30 days	January-February
6 Adar	29 or 30 days	February-March
7 Nissan	30 days	March-April
8 Iyar	29 days	April-May
9 Sivan	30 days	May-June
10 Tammuz	29 days	June-July
11 Av	30 days	July-August
12 Elul	29 days	August-September

Lesson 3

Chapters 5 and 6

Read pages 53-89

Vocabulary

Chafed

Sickle

Derision

Linnet

Tantalizing

Phylacteries

Contemptuous

Cohort

Impudent

Terrace

Questions

1. Why does Daniel want Joel to join Rosh's band?
2. Using your Bible, find the reference of the parables that were mentioned in chapter five. The parables about the Merchant and the Pearl, and the parable about the Net. Read through these parables.
3. How does Daniel show his disgust for the Romans?
4. When Daniel shows up in Capernaum to visit Joel, Thacia is not happy to see him. Why do you think Thacia is unhappy to see Daniel?
5. What did Joel's father, a Pharisee, and Daniel get into a disagreement about?
6. Retell the incident that got Daniel caused Daniel injury and a lot of trouble.
7. To what did Daniel compare himself when he encountered the Roman soldier?
8. Using your Bible, the dictionary, the encyclopedia, or whatever other material is available figure out how wide 2 cubits is.

Discussion Topics

1. Joel's father talked to Daniel about bearing our afflictions with patience. Is this good advice? Is this what God wants? Is this hard for us to do sometimes? When things are not going our way we usually get very upset and angry. Sometimes we even blame God. Find some passages that talk about afflictions in our life and how we should react to them.
2. We see from this story that Daniel clearly hates the Romans and he is openly disobedient to the government established. Read Romans chapter 13 and evaluate our relationship with they government and if we have a right to disobey the government

Activity

During Jesus time, people ate in an unusual way. Instead of sitting in chairs around a table, they oftentimes would lie down or reclined while they were eating. Have the students feel what this would be like by having them eat their snacks while reclined at a table.

Vocabulary

Papyrus

Rivet

Grove

Mantle

Exploit

Frenzy

Talisman

Serenity

Chasm

Stifled

Askew

Questions

1. Who do Daniel and Joel think that Rosh might be?
2. What was the cause of Daniels hatred toward the Romans? What happened to his family?
3. His sister, Leah, is said to be possessed by demons. What does Daniel think caused this illness?
4. Find the passage in Psalms that speaks of the bronze bow. After reading this passage consider this question, can we bend the bow of bronze?
5. Why had Simon, Daniel's friend, left his shop and home?
6. Why does Joel's father think Jesus is dangerous? Did the Pharisees in the Bible think the same thing?
7. Speare mentions Simon the fisherman, who is he and by what name to we know him from the Bible?
8. What was Joel's main obstacle to believing in Jesus? Whom did he think should be considered children of God?
9. Daniel realized that he was lonely after staying with Joel. He realized that in Joel he had a true friend. Friends are certainly a blessing and gift from God. Think about a special friend in your life and write down the blessing you received from this friend. Then write a prayer thanking God for this friend.

Discussion Topics

1. Jesus healed a boy who was bitten by a camel in the story; did this really take place in the Bible? Could something like this have happened? What is the one requirement that is needed to be healed by Jesus? Consider, Mark 10:52, “ ‘Go,’ said Jesus, ‘your faith has healed you.’”
2. We should remember that all the accounts of Jesus in this story did not actually occur. We do not know for instance where exactly Jesus slept. Yet do you think the author portrays a realistic picture of what it might have been like to see Jesus and to be around him?
3. Thacia, Joel, and Daniel all made a vow to the Lord. Is it right and proper to make vows? What guidelines should we follow? Consider passages such as Matthew 5:33-37, Numbers 30:2, and Matthew 22:37-40.

Activity

Daniel, Joel, and Thacia used a passage from the Bible to be their motto and war cry. They also had a sign that would be used as password for their group. Make up a poster with a passage from the Bible that will be the motto for your life. Use an illustration from the passage to draw a picture like the bow of bronze, for example. This picture will function as your password. Include reasons for picking that particular passage.

Vocabulary

Bungle

Goaded

Fetid

Derisive

Disheveled

Broodingly

Sultry

Haunches

Questions

1. What was the job that Rosh assigned Daniel as a test to his loyalty? Evaluate the assignment, what do you think about the job, would you have performed it. Write a paragraph explaining your reasons for accepting or rejecting the job.
2. How had Daniel failed his job according to Rosh?
3. Refer back to lesson one and the paragraph you wrote about your first impressions of Rosh. Has your opinion of him changed? Why or why not?
4. Is Leah's demon possession similar to people's demon possession recorded in the Bible? Compare and contrast Leah's demon possession with the demon possession of the man in Mark 5: 1-20.
5. It is evident that Daniel's mother taught Leah and Daniel the Bible. What Psalm did Daniel recite that he remembered from his childhood?

Discussion Topics

1. Rosh accused Daniel of possessing a flaw of weakness and softness. Is kindness really a flaw? Consider 2 Corinthians 12:10 when deciding.
2. Robin Hood said that he stole from the rich to give to the poor. Rosh reasoned he did much the same thing and justified it by saying that it was for a good cause. Does this make stealing right? Does the end justify the means?

Activity

People at this time did not read from books like we do, instead they read from scrolls. Create your own scroll with the words of Psalm 24 written on it.

Lesson 6 Chapters 11 and 12 Read pages 120-141

Vocabulary

Unfathomable

Idle

Procure

Deftly

Legionary

Mottled

Scythe

Surly

Elation

Questions

1. Simon was very kind to Daniel, he even allowed Daniel to stay in his house and work in his shop. He did this free of charge, there was only one thing that he asked of Daniel in return. What was this condition and why did he ask this of Daniel?
2. Do you think that working for the cause and staying in Rosh's band is more important than taking care of a family member? Did Daniel make the right choice in providing for his sister? Find some passages that support your point of view.
3. How did Leah get from their old house to Simon's house without being seen in public?
4. What did Daniel find out about Leah that surprised him very much?
5. Compare and Contrast Nathan and Kemuel, the two new recruits in Daniel and Joel's band. How were they similar and how were they different?
6. Nathan got abuse from other boys in the village because his dad was a tax collector. What did people accuse tax collectors of being or doing? Can you give at least one example from the Bible of someone who was a tax collector that was viewed in much the same way?
7. Daniel realized that practically all the young men in the village would have become recruits to their band, however they did not want to recruit all these men right away. What were their reasons for being cautious?
8. Despite Daniel's uncivil attitude toward the Roman soldier, the Roman kept coming to Daniels shop time after time to get jobs done. Why do you suppose he came so often?

Discussion Topics

1. At the beginning of chapter 11 we are taken to the funeral procession of Daniel's mother. There was another funeral procession mentioned in the Bible. What happened at this funeral procession? Read Luke 7:11-15.
2. Kemuel observed, "We only value the things we pay for." Do you think that this is a true statement? What are some examples from your life and experiences that might possibly prove this point?
3. The members of the band "were bound together by the sign" The sign was bow of bronze and that became their password. The believers of the early church after the time of Christ's death also used a sign or password, and that was a fish. Does anyone know why the fish was used as a symbol?

Activity

If you look on people's cars they might have the symbol of the fish telling everybody that they are Christians and that they believe in Christ. This is also a reminder to them about what Christ has done for them. To help us remember that we belong to Christ we are going to make fish key chains. Have the students create fish key chains using rope, beads, and a metal ring.

Lesson 7 Chapters 13 and 14 Read pages 142-143

Vocabulary

Dumfounded

Derisive

Smithy

Floundered

Glowering

Mutton

Comrades

Shrewdly

Delved

Questions

1. Joel confesses to Daniel that he has gone out to hear Jesus preach almost every day. He said that Jesus explained things to him. What did Jesus help Joel understand?
2. After Daniel and Joel had been visiting a friend, they came back to Daniel's house to find a surprise. What shocked Daniel regarding his sister?
3. Thacia's and Joel's visit caused Daniel to realize something about his sister. This realization ashamed him; what was it?
4. Daniel described to Leah the wedding of his friend Nathan. These weddings are different than weddings of today, yet there are some similar aspects. Write down some of the similarities and differences of weddings back then and weddings of today from the description of the Nathan's wedding ceremony.
5. Even though Leah was ignorant of many things, do you think that she had a better attitude regarding the Romans than Daniel had? Summarize what Leah thought of the Romans.
6. Why did Rosh not like Sampson?

Discussion Topics

1. Leah was too afraid to experience what life was like on her own. Instead she lived and looked at the world through the words of Daniel: "He understood how his words were like a window through which she could peek out at a world of people she did not dare to meet face to face." Do you like to experience life through others? We all at some point in our lives have used "windows" through which we looked through. Can you think of "windows" you have used they can be people or objects?
2. Daniel seems to be torn between two leaders, Jesus and Rosh. He cannot help but compare the two because they are so different. What characteristics make Jesus different than Rosh and vice versa?

Activity

The country of Israel is much different from our country and the habits of people are much different from ours. The land and geographical features are different also. To get a better picture of the land of Israel, create a poster of what Israel looks like. You may want to include houses, lakes (sea of Galilee and the Dead sea), rivers, mountains, and people in your poster. You can get pictures off the Internet, from books, encyclopedias, or from *National Geographic* magazines, anywhere where you can find them.

Vocabulary

Smart

Legation

Tetrarch

Garrison

Intrigue

Scruples

Furtive

Parched

Damask

Questions

1. What motivated Daniel at first and then later to walk all the way to Capernaum each day and listen to Jesus?
2. How was Daniel a missionary without knowing it? How can you be a missionary also?
3. What parable did Daniel tell Leah? Was Jesus expecting that "Jews and Samaritans treat each other like neighbors?" Who are our neighbors?
4. Whom did Jesus help the most or who sought Jesus' help the most? Consider what Jesus said about this fact, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. . . . For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."
5. Daniel said that Jesus did not turn children away even though it bothered some people. Find the account in the Bible where this occurs and where Jesus blesses the little children.
6. Rosh has a special job for Joel. What was it that he wanted Joel to do for him? What doubts and fears did Thacia and Daniel have about this job?
7. Why do the Jews and Zealots dislike Herod?
8. What plan did Joel and Thacia come up with? Why did Thacia feel guilty about carrying out this plan?
9. Would you describe Daniel as being a pessimist or an optimist?

Discussion Topics

1. When Jesus was speaking many workers temporarily stopped doing their jobs to hear him. This caused the overseers to become very angry. Was it right for the men to stop working? Can you think of any stories from the Bible that focus on this topic? Consider the story about Mary and Martha in Luke 10:38-41.
2. What was Leah's favorite story that Daniel experienced while listening to Jesus that she asked to hear over and over again? Is this story accurate from the account given in the Bible? Let's read it as it is recorded in Mark 5: 21-43 to find out.
3. Daniel asked Thacia, "Do you think God loves the Romans?" Daniel thought that this was impossible, yet Thacia wondered because Jesus told them to love their enemies. Does God love the Romans and does he tell us to love our enemies. Find passages that prove this point. Some may include, John 3:16 and Matthew 5: 43, 44.

Activity

Thacia, when looking at nature, came to the conclusion that the world was very beautiful. It led her to declare, "It is just beautiful to be alive in Galilee!" We oftentimes miss out on the beauty of the world because we take it for granted. We also forget to thank God for his wonderful creation. Think of a place or a picture that is especially beautiful to you and duplicate it by either drawing or painting that picture.

Lesson 9 Chapters 17 and 18 Read pages 188-203

Vocabulary

Gala

Gauntlet

Swaggered

Wantonly

Clamor

Questions

1. Joel had successfully completed Rosh's mission. What had Rosh done with this information that Joel had gathered? Was it used toward a good purpose?
2. What did Joel think of his mission, what did the band think of the mission, and finally what did Daniel think of the mission after it was completed?
3. Do you think that Rosh really cares about the Jewish people or is he just thinking about himself?
4. What terrible news did Thacia bring to Daniel? What did Daniel do to solve this problem?
5. What was the cause of friction between Rosh and Daniel that lead Daniel to split from Rosh?
6. Daniel is uneasy at the end of this chapter because he feels a presence near him as if he is being followed. Whom do you think is following him?

Discussion Topics

1. When Daniel went to Rosh for help, Rosh denied him. He said that, "on this mountain every man is responsible for himself." Who from the Bible said a similar thing? Cain responded in a similar way when he told God, "Am I my brother's keeper" (Genesis 4:9). Does God expect us to help our neighbor and our brother? What commandment proves this point?

Activity

Have the students act out or illustrate a parable. The previous lesson included the parable about the Good Samaritan, which might be a good one to choose. After they act out the parable have them explain what the parable means.

Lesson 10

Chapters 19 and 20 Read pages 204-220

Vocabulary

Fischer

Foreboding

Plumes

Stupefied

Groped

Dourly

Coyly

Parched

Questions

1. List the advantages of the place where Daniel attacked the Roman forces and list the reasons why Daniel attacked the Romans where he did.
2. The plan to save Joel was very risky, especially because the small number of the band. Yet what was Daniel willing to do and give up in order to save Joel and bring him to safety?
3. Evaluate the attack and write a paragraph or two answering the following questions. Was the attack successful? What were the consequences? Who was saved Daniel and what was the price of saving him? What were the feelings of the band members after the attack?
4. After their mission to save Joel the band was very cautious. Why do you think they were so cautious?
5. Why did Joel's father now approve of Daniel?
6. List the reasons Daniel broke away from Rosh.
7. To what event did Thacia invite Daniel?
8. Joel came to warn Daniel about those who wanted to kill Jesus. Who were these men?
9. What do you think Daniel's feelings are toward Thacia?

Discussion Topics

1. Many parents selected a spouse for their children during this time period; this practice is called arranged marriages. Joel's father promised his children that they could marry whomever they wished. How do you feel about arranged marriages? Many people in the Bible had arranged marriages; can you think of some examples?
2. Daniel felt very guilty after their attack on the Romans. He kept thinking about how Sampson gave up his life for him. He felt the guilt of both Sampson's and Nathan's deaths. Oftentimes we feel the guilt of our sins or perhaps one particular sin. You have a friend who feels very guilty about one particular sin. How can you comfort this friend? What are some passages that will help your friend out?

Activity

The Roman Soldiers formed their procession in a precise manner. This procession is described in chapter 19. From this description, draw a picture of what the procession might have looked like. Try to place the different branches of the army in their particular place. This will hopefully help in your visualization of the event.

Lesson 11

Chapters 21 and 22 Read pages 221-237

Vocabulary

Dourly

Aloof

Dious

Disdain

Frivolous

Coyly

Loathing

Groveling

Questions

1. Joel wanted to warn Jesus about the growing anger and resentment the Pharisees felt toward him. He knew that they were plotting to trap and trick Jesus. Find one example from the Bible where they asked Jesus a question in order to trap him.
2. What is the greatest way you can show love for a friend? Sampson did this for Daniel. What Friend of yours did this very same thing?
3. Jesus told Daniel about a young rich man who wanted to follow Jesus; however he was unable to do this because he was too attached to something. What was he unable to give up? Daniel also could not give up something, what couldn't he give up?
4. Daniel wanted to see Thacia dance, yet he was reluctant to go. When he finally went to the festival, he felt very awkward in the crowd. What are some of the reasons he felt this way?
5. What do you suppose was the purpose of this dance or festival?
6. Daniel admitted that he liked Thacia, yet he did not want to marry her. Why?
7. How did Daniel find out about Leah's friend? What was his reaction? Do you think that he handled the situation well?

Discussion Topics

1. When Daniel went to talk to Jesus, Simon told Daniel that Jesus was weary and had a hard day. Oftentimes we forget that Jesus was human just like us. Think of some of the same things Jesus had to suffer that we have to suffer. Can you find the proof for these human curses in the Bible?
2. Even though Jesus was very tired and weary from the long day, he was still willing to talk to Daniel. Some people think God is too busy to listen to them, but this is contrary to Scripture. God commands us to pray to him, and promises to hear those who love Him. Think of a passage where God tells us to lay our burdens on him. (Matthew 11:28) When Daniel told Jesus his problems what burden was removed from him? Our burdens will also be removed when we take our concerns and troubles to Jesus.
3. After coming back from the festival, Daniel was in a bad mood and he didn't want to talk to Leah. If we are cranky, crabby, or in a bad mood does that give us the right to be short with people or take out our frustrations on other? Daniel realized that he should be kind to his sister and tell her about the dance he went to. After he did this, he was "surprised out his own gloom." What is the best way to cheer yourself up?

Activity

Pretend you are a newspaper editor during the time of Jesus. You have gone to hear Jesus speak almost every day and because of this you have become a believer. You want to share this good news with others, therefore you decide to write about what Jesus has said. What I want you to do is write up a newspaper article that contains four sections. One article will be about a parable that Jesus taught; choose one from the Bible and explain that parable. The second article will be about one of Jesus' miracles that he performed. The third article will be about a topic we have discussed in class, such as taking oaths, being prejudice, loving your neighbors and enemies, obeying the government, or about the Kingdom of God. If you wish to write about a different subject other than these, you will have to get permission. Your final article will be about what it takes to become a believer. In other words, how does one get to heaven. What has Jesus done for you?

Lesson 12

Chapters 23 and 24 Read pages 238-254

Vocabulary

Steeled

Dismal

Exultation

Averted

Bewildered

Cohort

Rue

Profane

Questions

1. What were the consequences of Daniel's outrage toward his sister? What does this warn us about controlling our temper?
2. Why did the people of Israel follow Jesus so earnestly?
3. Daniel came upon an event that is recorded in the Bible. What event was this? Find where it is recorded in the Bible.
4. What wrong idea did the people of Israel have about the coming Messiah? Did Daniel feel the same way?
5. Who did Simon think that Jesus was?
6. What was wrong with this statement of Simon, "I have chosen Jesus." Consider I Corinthians 12:3.
7. The physician who came to help Leah used a type of animal to help her. What did he use? Do you know why they used these types of animals?
8. What did Jesus do for Leah? What did Jesus do for Daniel?
9. After Jesus left Daniel's house, Daniel realized he forgot to do something? What was it that he forgot to do? Do we forget to do this often? Think of one blessing that you received today that you forgot to thank Jesus for and write a short prayer thanking him for this gift.
10. Daniel finally overcame his hatred and prejudice; with what did he overcome these two things?

Discussion Topics

1. Simon told Daniel that there is something better than Israel's freedom and that was the kingdom of God? Most of the people of Israel, including Daniel, did not know what the Kingdom of God is? What is the Kingdom of God?
2. Simon also told Daniel that "if we do not hate anyone and do not fear anyone, then we are free." What elements are Simon missing that makes us free to love everyone and makes us free from sin?

Activity

For this lesson there is no new activity. Have the student's work on the activity from the previous lesson. However you might want to include an additional article asking the students their opinions on the book, what the main themes of the book are, and if they would recommend this book to others.