

Cyril Church of Christ

Kid's Devo

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Monday

There was a family of donkeys that lived on a farm between the towns of Cement and Cyril. There was a mom and a dad. The mom's name was Gertrude and the dad's name was Horace. There were three young donkeys named Mary, Scott and Sam. There was also grandma and grandpa, their names were Raymond and Doris. Finally there was also an orphan donkey that lived with them, his name was Oliver.

Mary, Sam and Scott had a gourd and were playing baseball in the barnyard. While they were playing, a cattle trailer backed up to the corral.

"Help, help, they're taking me away!" said a young calf while Farmer Smith put him in the trailer.

Then several more were herded in. They were really afraid as they got in the trailer. Most of them had never been in a trailer before.

"Where are they taking us? We're scared!" said another calf.

Mary, Scott and Sam ran to their Grandpa and told him what was happening.

"Don't worry guys, this happens every year. Farmer Smith raises cattle. When the cows have babies, he waits until the babies are old enough and then he sales them at the sale barn," said Grandpa.

"That's terrible," said Sam.

"It is just how things are guys. It reminds me of back when Jehoiachin was king of Judah. He wouldn't do what King Nebuchadnezzar wanted him to and King Nebuchadnezzar had a big army. When King Jehoiachin wouldn't do what Nebuchadnezzar told him to, Nebuchadnezzar sent an army and attacked Jerusalem. Just like those cattle he rounded up all the rich people, and all the

real important people and made them move away. They took captive all of King Jehoiachin's family. The Bible says, 'Then he led away into exile all Jerusalem and all the captains and all the mighty men of valor, ten thousand captives, and all the craftsmen and the smiths. None remained except the poorest people of the land.' (II Kings 24:14) It is hard to imagine how rough it would be to have to move to a different place and lose everything you had. I suppose those calves know how hard it is and the people of Jerusalem sure knew how hard it was," said Grandpa.

Song: Jesus Loves Me

Scripture Reading: II Kings 24:12

Question: Why did the rich people in Jerusalem have to move?
(King Nebuchadnezzar made them move)

Tuesday

One day, Tina the goat was eating some grain that smelled terrible.

“Try some Sam,” she said as Sam was walking by.

“That smells terrible and Dad says never to eat anything that is rotten,” said Sam.

“It won’t hurt ya. We goats eat everything,” said Tina.

“I’m not going to eat it, it smells nasty,” said Sam.

Later that day Sam told his dad about Tina wanting him to eat the rotten grain.

“You did what was right Sam. Rotten stuff can make you sick. That reminds me of the prophet Daniel. You see when King Nebuchadnezzar took over Jerusalem, he took prisoner all the people of the royal family. He also told his army, ‘...bring in some of the sons of Israel, including some of the royal family and of the nobles, youths in whom was no defect, who were good-looking, showing intelligence in every branch of wisdom, endowed with understanding and discerning knowledge, and who had ability for serving in the king’s court; and he ordered him to teach them the literature and language of the Chaldeans’. (Daniel 1:3-4) One of the young men they took was named Daniel. In those days God had told the people of Israel to not eat some kinds of food. When Daniel got to Babylon, he decided that he wouldn’t disobey God and eat the foods that God did not allow. There were other Israelites that refused the food also. They were Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah. Daniel told the commander that they wouldn’t eat the food that they were bringing. The commander was afraid that he would get into trouble if Daniel got skinny from not eating enough. Daniel told the commander, ‘Please test your servants for ten days, and let us be given some vegetables to eat and water to drink’. (Daniel 1:12) After the ten days were over, Daniel and the other Israelites looked stronger than the rest of the servants who ate the other foods. Daniel and the rest of the Israelites went on just eating vegetables and God blessed them. The Bible says, ‘God gave them knowledge and intelligence in every

branch of literature and wisdom; Daniel even understood all kinds of visions and dreams.’ (Daniel 1:17) Even though Daniel was a long way from home, he still obeyed God,” said Horace.

Song: Jesus Loves The Little Children

Scripture Reading: Daniel 1:5

Question: Why didn’t Daniel eat the king’s food? (He wanted to stay faithful to God)

Thursday

One evening Sam, Scott, and Mary all went to sleep. While Sam was asleep he had a dream. In the dream there was no play time. Everybody went to school all day and all night. Sam woke up screaming. Gertrude ran into Sam's stall to see what was wrong.

"What's wrong Sam!" said Gertrude.

"I had the worst dream. I dreamed that we didn't get to play, or sleep, all we did all the time was go to school," said Sam.

"It was a nightmare Sam. Although, it seems like a good idea. Let me tell you a story about a king that had a nightmare. It was King Nebuchadnezzar. One night he had a bad dream and just knew it meant something was going to happen in the future. He called all his wise men into see him. He knew that if he told them the dream, that they would lie and just make something up so he told his wise men that they had to tell him what his dream was and also tell him what it meant. None of his wise men could do this and Nebuchadnezzar got so mad that he decided to kill all the wise men. Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah were all wise men and they became afraid. Daniel talked to Arioch the king's commander and told him that if he gave him some time, that he would be able to tell the king the dream and what the dream meant. When God gave the dream and its meaning to Daniel, he asked to be brought to the King. He told the King that the dream was about a statue. The statue had a head made out of gold. It had a middle and arms made out of silver and the belly and the thighs were made out of bronze. Finally, its legs and feet were made out of iron and clay. Also in the dream a stone came and destroyed the statue. After he told the king what the dream was, he went on to tell him what the dream meant. He told him that the head of Gold stood for Babylon and King Nebuchadnezzar. He then told him that the bronze stood for the two kingdoms that would come after Babylon. The first one would not be as strong but the second would rule the whole world. These two kingdoms would be Medo-Persia and Greece. Then he told him that the

iron stood for another kingdom that would come after Greece. He told him that this kingdom would be strong like iron but parts of it would be breakable like clay. This would be the nation of Rome. Finally, he told the King that the stone was a new Kingdom set up by God Himself. This Kingdom would last forever. The final kingdom was to be the Church. After Daniel told King Nebuchadnezzar the dream and its meaning, Daniel was promoted and given many gifts. Daniel also arranged for his friends to be promoted too,” said Gertrude.

Song: The Wise Man

Scripture Reading: Daniel 2:46-48

Question: Why wouldn't Nebuchadnezzar tell the wise men what the dream was? (He knew they would lie and pretend they knew what the dream meant)

Friday

One morning, there was a terrible noise and before thinking Scott ran to see what the noise was. A fire had started in the chicken coop and one of the hens named Esther was stuck in it.

“Help me! Help me! The chicken coop is on fire and I’m stuck in it.

Scott ran into the burning coop and saved Esther.

Scott’s ears and tail were burnt when he got Esther out of the chicken coop.

After catching her breath, Esther walked to the donkey barn and told Horace and Gertrude what a fine donkey they had for a son. Esther told them how Scott had saved her life from the fire.

“We’re so proud of you Scott. You sure were brave to go into a fire like that,” said Gertrude.

“Why don’t we all set down for a Bible story about a fire and a furnace. Well Daniel’s friends Hanaiah, Mishael and Azariah all got new names when they came to Babylon. They were now called Shadrach, Meshack and Abednego. After Daniel told King Nebuchadnezzar what the statue in the dream meant, the King went on to do something evil. He made a fake god that looked like the statue in the dream. He passed a law that everybody had to worship the fake god when the musicians played their music. Shadrach, Meshack and Abednego wouldn’t worship the fake god because it would be a sin against the real God.

People told the King that Shadrack, Meshack and Abednego wouldn't worship the fake god, so Nebuchadnezzar got mad and gave an order to have the three of them thrown into the furnace of fire. He gave them one final chance to worship the fake god but they said, 'O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to give you an answer concerning this matter. If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire; and He will deliver us out of your hand O king. But even if He does not, let it be known to you, O king, that we are not going to serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.' (Daniel 3:16-18) Nebuchadnezzar threw them into the fire. The fire was so hot that the people who threw them into the furnace died because of the heat. When the King looked into the fire he saw a fourth person with them and they were protected after a while the king allowed them to come out of the furnace. They were not burned at all and even their clothes were okay and didn't smell like smoke. Nebuchadnezzar said, 'Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who has sent His angel and delivered His servants who put their trust in Him.' (Daniel 3:28), said Horace.

While Horace was telling the story, Gertrude was putting Aloe Vera on Scotts burns.

"I sure wish I wouldn't have gotten burned. God sure protected Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego," said Scott.

Song: The Lord's Army

Scripture Reading: Daniel 3:26

Question: What happened to the guards that threw Shadrach, Meshack and Abednego into the fire? (The heat killed them)

