

Introduction:

- We will be sharing about one interesting Animal but the focus is on Jesus Christ
 - *This Animal is referred to 148 times in 122 verses in the KJV*
- Our Goal is to Each of you to Think of Jesus':
 - *Mercy*
 - *Grace*
 - *Power*
 - *Love*

“Grace Got You”

1. A Lion is Powerful but who has the most Power?

Kids

[Pro 30:30 KJV] 30 A lion [which is] strongest among beasts, and turneth not away for any;

Albert: They ain't as powerful as my uncle, Gorilla George.

Did you notice that verse says the lion is afraid of nothing?

Albert: I guess the Lion is stronger. There is one thing Uncle George is afraid of.

What's That?

Albert: Aunt Martha

[Nah 2:11 KJV] 11 Where [is] the dwelling of the lions, and the feeding place of the young lions, where the lion, [even] the old lion, walked, [and] the lion's whelp, and none made [them] afraid?

Albert: Do lions eat monkeys?

I suppose they would.

Albert: You know we don't taste as good as humans.

How do you know?

Albert: Cause I would be lyin if I said monkeys taste better.

There have been some men who have killed lions with their bare hands with the help of the Lord.

Samson killed a lion with his bare hands using an awesome weapon. One of King David's warriors, Benaiah used that same power.

[Jdg 14:5 KJV] 5 Then went Samson down, and his father and his mother, to Timnath, and came to the vineyards of Timnath: and, behold, a young lion roared against him. 6 And the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him, and he rent him as he would have rent a kid, and [he had] nothing in his hand: but he told not his father or his mother what he had done.

[2Sa 23:20 KJV] 20 And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, the son of a valiant man, of Kabzeel, who had done many acts, he slew two lionlike men of Moab: he went down also and slew a lion in the midst of a pit in time of snow:

David killed a lion and a bear.

[1Sa 17:34, 36-37 KJV] 34 And David said unto Saul, Thy servant kept his father's sheep, and there came a lion, and a bear, and took a lamb out of the flock: ... 36 Thy servant slew both the lion and the bear: and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them, seeing he hath defied the armies of the living God. 37 David said moreover, **The LORD that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine.** And Saul said unto David, Go, and the LORD be with thee.

2. A Lion brings fear but where does fear come from?

Lions are used throughout the Bible to bring awareness to evil and to show evil can be overcome with God's help.

[Pro 28:15 KJV] 15 [As] a roaring lion, and a ranging bear; [so is] a wicked ruler over the poor people.

[Amo 3:8 KJV] 8 The lion hath roared, who will not fear? the Lord GOD hath spoken, who can but prophesy?

Teens

Intro to Jed

In the beginning, God created the earth and rested.

Then God created Man and rested.

Then God created Teenagers.

Since then, neither God nor Man has rested.

[2Ti 1:7 KJV] 7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

We are talking about lions and I would like to focus on the fear lions bring our way. What scares you Jed?

Jed: Teenagers!

Why?

Jed: Cause they don't understand us old people. They think we are fools but you know most folks don't get to be old being a fool.

How does that scare you? Many teens confess old folks don't understand them.

Jed: You never know if they want to be treated like an adult or a kid. What scares me is I might get it wrong and treat them in the wrong way.

How's that?

Jed: Sort of like stroking a cat's fur the wrong way. Have you ever done that?

Give us an example!

Jed: Well, if I treat them like a kid and they are feeling adulty, they think the old man has lost his mind. If I treat them like an adult and they are in the kid mode, I'm too mean and heartless.

I see. You can never go wrong treating all teens with respect and getting to know them. I teach teenagers in school you know. What would you tell a teen who is being bullied on social media?

Jed: Be nice to them, invite them to your house and beat the ever loving tar out of them.

No, no, no, no, NO! Please don't anybody do that. You don't stop bullies by bullying them back.

Jed: Doesn't the Bible say do unto others?

There is a bit more to what the Bible says. The Word says treat others the way you want to be treated.

[Dan 6:16-24 KJV] 16 Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast [him] into the den of lions. [Now] the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee. 17 And a stone was brought, and laid upon the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it with his own signet, and with the signet of his lords; that the purpose might not be changed concerning Daniel. 18 Then the king went to his palace, and passed the night fasting: neither were instruments of musick brought before him: and his sleep went from him. 19 Then the king arose very early in the morning, and went in haste unto the den of lions. 20 And when he came to the den, he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel: [and] the king spake and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions? 21 Then said Daniel unto the king, O king, live for ever. 22

My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt. 23 Then was the king exceeding glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God. 24 And the king commanded, and they brought those men which had accused Daniel, and they cast [them] into the den of lions, them, their children, and their wives; and the lions had the mastery of them, and brake all their bones in pieces or ever they came at the bottom of the den.

3. A Lion is after you and your family so how can you overcome?

Adults

Buzzy

The following short quiz consists of 4 questions and tells whether you are qualified to be a "professional." According to Andersen Consulting Worldwide, around 90% of the professionals they tested got all questions wrong. But many preschoolers got several correct answers!

1. How do you put a giraffe into a refrigerator?

Correct Answer: Open the refrigerator, put in the giraffe and close the door. This question tests whether you tend to do simple things in an overly complicated way.

2. How do you put an elephant into a refrigerator?

Wrong Answer: Open the refrigerator, put in the elephant and close the door.

Correct Answer: Open the refrigerator, take out the giraffe, put in the elephant and close the door. This tests your ability to think through the repercussions of your actions.

3. The Lion King is hosting an animal conference. All the animals attend except one. Which animal does not attend?

Correct Answer: The elephant. The elephant is in the refrigerator. This tests your memory.

OK, even if you didn't answer the first three questions correctly, you still have one more chance to show your abilities.

4. There is a river you must cross. But it is inhabited by crocodiles. How do you manage it?

Correct Answer: You swim across. All the crocodiles are attending the Animal Conference. This tests whether you learn quickly from your mistakes.

[1Pe 5:8 KJV] 8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

1. Put on the Armor of God
2. Pray
3. Walk with God

4. The Lion of the Tribe of Juda

[Rev 5:5 KJV] 5 And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.

a. Powerful

b. Fearless

c. He is after you

God's judgement is portrayed through the fierceness of a lion

[Hos 5:14 KJV] 14 For I [will be] unto Ephraim as a lion, and as a young lion to the house of Judah: I, [even] I, will tear and go away; I will take away, and none shall rescue [him].

[Hos 13:7-8 KJV] 7 Therefore I will be unto them as a lion: as a leopard by the way will I observe [them]: 8 I will meet them as a bear [that is] bereaved [of her whelps], and will rend the caul of their heart, and there will I devour them like a lion: the wild beast shall tear them.

Barnes' Notes: To cut off all hopes of God's mercy, He says that he will be to them, as those creatures of His, which never spare. The fierceness of the lion, and the swiftness of the leopard, together portray a speedy inexorable chastisement. But what a contrast I He who bare Israel in the wilderness like a Father, who bare them on eagle's wings, who drew them with the cords of a man, with bands of love, He, the God of mercy and of love, their Father, Protector, Defender, Avenger, He it is who will be their destroyer.

Adrian Rogers

Let me sum it up this way: life is short; death is sure; sin is the cause; and Christ is the cure.