TRACK ONE

Family Study

For parents, grandparents, and kids of every age. Watch together, read the story, talk, play, and pray.



"...he kneeled on his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did before." (Daniel 6:10, WEB)

The Story, Simply Told

Part Three of the Daniel Series, retold from Daniel 6. Quoted words are paraphrased for children. Verse 24 (the accusers punished) is mentioned only briefly.

God had rescued Daniel's friends from the fiery furnace, and Daniel had read the writing on the wall the night Babylon fell. Now a new king ruled. The Bible calls him Darius the Mede.

King Darius chose 120 leaders to help him rule, and three officials over them. One of the three was Daniel, now an old man. He did his work so well that the king planned to put him over the whole kingdom. The other leaders looked for something he had done wrong, but they found nothing, because he was faithful. So they made a plan: we will catch him only through the law of his God.

They went to the king. "King Darius, make a law! For thirty days, no one may pray to any god or person except you. Anyone who does will be thrown into the den of lions." The king signed it, and a law of the Medes and Persians could not be changed.

When Daniel knew the law was signed, he went home to his room, where the windows were open toward Jerusalem. He knelt three times a day, prayed, and gave thanks to God, as he always had. The men found him praying and told the king. The king worked until sunset to save Daniel, but the law could not be changed. So Daniel was put into the den of lions. The king said, "Your God, whom you serve all the time, will rescue you." A stone was placed over the opening and sealed.

That night the king could not eat or sleep. At dawn he hurried to the den and called out, "Daniel, servant of the living God, was your God able to rescue you?" And Daniel answered! "My God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths. They have not hurt me." The king was overjoyed. Daniel was lifted out, and he was not hurt at all, because he had trusted in his God. The king punished the men who set the trap and told every nation to honor the God of Daniel, the living God, who rescues.

The law was new, but Daniel's prayers were not.

Talk Together

AGES 4-7

1. What did Daniel do three times every day?
2. How do you think the king felt all night long?
3. Who shut the lions' mouths?

AGES 8-12

1. The leaders found nothing wrong with Daniel's work. Why does honest work matter to God?
2. Why didn't Daniel stop praying?
3. When is it hard for you to trust God?

TEENS

1. Daniel's enemies could fault him only over "the law of his God" (6:5). What would people notice about your faith?
2. Daniel gave thanks in danger (6:10). How can thankfulness change how you face pressure?
3. God doesn't promise to rescue us from every danger. How can we still trust Him?

Try This Together

Open-Window Prayer Card 10 MINUTES Fold both edges of a sheet of paper to the middle to make window shutters. Inside, write *Morning*, *Noon*, and *Night*, with one thing to thank God for beside each. Tape it near a window and pray together at those times this week.

The Law That Couldn't Change 5 MINUTES A parent writes a silly rule ("Everyone claps before dinner") and seals it with a sticker: no one can change it now. Try to keep the rule all through dinner. Then talk: the king couldn't change his law, but no human law could stop the living God, "steadfast forever" (6:26).

MEMORY VERSE

"When I am afraid, I will put my trust in you."

PSALM 56:3, WEB

Younger children: learn "...I will put my trust in you." with open hands.

A FAMILY PRAYER

Dear God, thank You that You are the living God and You hear every prayer. Help us talk with You every day and thank You even when things are hard. When we are afraid, help us trust You. Thank You for Jesus, who promised to be with us always. In Jesus' name, amen.