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DANIEL 6:10-24

FAITHFUL RESCUER



THIS WEEK'S **focus**

Trusting others when you feel out of control can be difficult. None of us like the feeling of circumstances being out of our hands, having to rely on someone else to get us through. It's like sitting in the passenger seat while the driver navigates bad traffic or being in a scary thunderstorm. Yet, God calls us to continually trust Him with not only our lives, but also with our days, our decisions, and our difficulties. Daniel faced one of the greatest threats in his life as he was sentenced to the lion's den. He too had to remember that God is worthy of our trust, even in our greatest trials.



CENTRAL **truth**

God is worthy of our trust, even in our greatest trials.

DAILY devotions

MEMORIZE DANIEL 6:27

7 ARROWS FOR BIBLE READING



What does this passage say?



What does this passage tell us about God?



What did this passage mean to its original audience?



How does this passage change the way I relate to people?



What does this passage tell us about man?



How does this passage prompt me to pray?



What does this passage demand of me?

day 1

DANIEL 6:3-9

DWELL

The other administrators in Darius's palace had it out for Daniel. He was a foreigner, and he prayed to a foreign God, yet he was somehow still the king's favorite. Daniel's humility and faithfulness, and his God's favor, set him above all the rest. So in their jealousy, the staff started plotting, and came up with a perfect plan: they would have King Darius sign a law against worshiping anyone other than the king for thirty days. They knew that Daniel would either be forced to submit himself to the law or be killed.



How did the administrators trick King Darius into signing the edict?



How has jealousy sometimes motivated you to act unjustly toward others? How could humility have helped?

MEMORIZE

Use a phone or computer to record yourself reading Daniel 6:27 aloud. Listen to this recording throughout the week.

PRAY

Pray that you would turn your eyes toward God and His goodness when jealousy threatens to cloud your judgment.

day 2

DANIEL

6:10-14

DWELL

When Daniel heard about the edict, he didn't search for a way to get out of complying, or complain about how unfair it was. He just kept doing what he knew was right—he prayed to his God. The administrators knew this was their chance. They slyly asked the king, "Didn't you just sign an edict against praying to other gods?" The king agreed that he had, and they told him that they had caught Daniel breaking the law. Darius realized he'd been tricked by his own staff. But there was no way around it—Daniel had broken the law, and the king couldn't take it back. Daniel would have to die.



What do these verses teach you about Daniel, King Darius, and their relationship?

→ What can you learn from these verses about how to react when your faith conflicts with the world's expectations of you?

MEMORIZE

Write Daniel 6:27 on a note card and place it in a folder or binder where you will see it frequently. Read it to yourself each time you see it this week.

PRAY

Ask God for the faith and courage to follow Him even when it isn't easy or popular.

day 3

DANIEL

6:15-18

DWELL

The king knew that making an exception to the law for Daniel would undermine his authority as king. His hands were tied—he would need to follow through with Daniel's punishment. So he threw Daniel into a pit full of lions—a common form of execution at the time. So that no one would dare to rescue or assist Daniel, the king left an impression of his signet ring on the stone covering the pit. But the king's heart wasn't in it, and he spent the night fasting, unable to sleep or rest. Only a miracle could save Daniel now.



Why did Darius's staff remind him that the law could not be changed (v. 15)?



Who or what might you need to stop putting your trust in so you can trust God more fully?

MEMORIZE

Break Daniel 6:27 into 3–5 smaller parts and try to recite a different part to yourself from memory throughout each day.

PRAY

Thank God that even when you can't see a way out of a situation, God is already working behind the scenes for your good and His name.

day 4

DANIEL 6:19-24

DWELL

Darius had seen the strength of Daniel's faith, and hoped that Daniel's God was mighty enough to save him from the lions. And sure enough, when the king rushed to the pit first thing the next morning, Daniel greeted him humbly—the lions had not been able to harm a hair on his head, and neither had he needed to harm them. God was truly with His servant Daniel. The men who had acted against Daniel, however, did not fare as well, and the king ordered their execution. The hungry lions that had been prevented from harming Daniel now killed their new victims quickly and brutally.

← What might this miracle have communicated to Darius about Daniel's faith and about his God?

→ What characteristics of God tell you that He is worthy to trust in times of trouble? Do you believe this?

MEMORIZE

Draw Daniel 6:27 on a piece of paper using colored pencils or markers, using a different color for the most important words and phrases. Hang it in your room or locker.

PRAY

Praise God that He is far greater than any trouble we will face in our lives.

day 5

PSALM 46:1-7

DWELL

When you are afraid or overwhelmed, turning to the Book of Psalms can be a way to find words to help you pray, or to remind you of God's faithful protection and guidance. God will not always prevent calamity from happening, but we can trust that even in the midst of our worst days—days when it feels like the world is falling down around us—God is right there with us to offer courage, comfort, peace, and hope.

↑ What does it mean that God is a refuge? How can this give us courage?

↻ How can the encouragement from this psalm change how you pray to God for help?

MEMORIZE

Practice reciting Daniel 6:27 aloud from memory with a friend or family member. They can prompt you with the next word if you need help remembering.

PRAY

Praise God for being a reliable help in times of trouble. Read Psalm 46 again if you need inspiration.