

Learn to be Faithful. God is in Control.



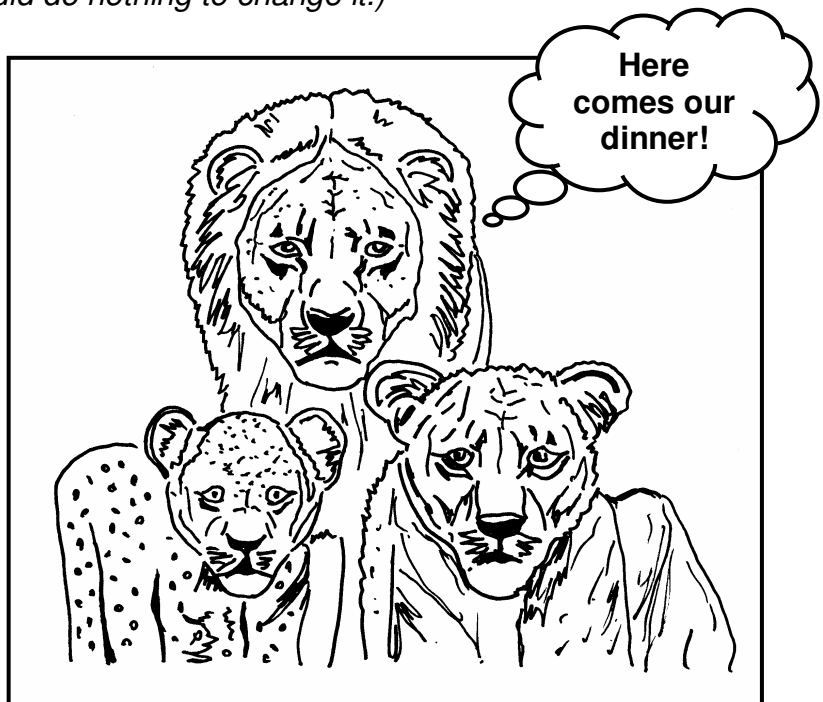
Daniel was a very faithful governor for the king. Because he was so faithful and did such a good job, many of the other officials were jealous. They decided to trap Daniel and hurt him. They knew he prayed to God three times a day because he always went to his window and stood in it where everyone could see. So they tricked the king into signing a law that said: If anyone prays to anybody but the king for the next thirty days, they would be thrown into the lions' den! Let's read the Scriptures and see what happens.

Daniel 6:12-18 (International Children's Bible, paraphrased)

*"So (the evil men) went to the king... They said, **"Didn't you write a law that says no one may pray to any god or man except you, our king? Doesn't it say that anyone who disobeys during the next 30 days will be thrown into the lions' den?"***

*The king answered, "Yes, I wrote that law. And the laws of the Medes and Persians cannot be canceled." {13} Then those said, **"Daniel is one of the captives from Judah. And he is not paying attention to the law you wrote. Daniel still prays to his God three times every day."** {14} The king became very upset when he heard this. He decided he had to save Daniel. He worked until sunset trying to think of a way... {15} (but since he made the law, he could do nothing to change it.)*

{16} So King Darius gave the order. They brought Daniel and threw him into the lions' den. The king said to Daniel, "May the God you serve all the time save you!" {17} A big stone was brought. It was put over the opening of the lions' den. Then the king used his signet ring to put his special seal on the rock. And he used the rings of his royal officers to put their seals on the rock also. This showed that no one could move that rock and bring Daniel out. {18} Then King Darius went back to his palace. He did not eat that night. He did not have any kind of entertainment... And he could not sleep."



The Lions' Den

Daniel 6:19-22

"The next morning King Darius got up at dawn. He hurried to the lions' den. {20} As he came near the den, he was worried. He called out to Daniel. He said, "Daniel, servant of the living God! Has your God that you always worship been able to save you from the lions?" {21} Daniel answered, "My king, live forever! {22} My God sent his angel to close the lions' mouths. They have not hurt me, because my God knows I am innocent. I never did anything wrong to you, my king."



Daniel 6:23-27

"King Darius was very happy. He told his servants to lift Daniel out of the lions' den. So they lifted him out and did not find any injury on him. This was because Daniel had trusted in his God.

{24} Then the king gave a command. The men who had accused Daniel were brought to the lions' den and thrown into it. The lions grabbed them before they hit the floor of the den. And the lions crushed their bones.

{25} Then King Darius wrote a letter. It was to all people and all nations, to those who spoke every language in the world: I wish you great wealth. {26} I am making a new law. This law is for people in every part of my kingdom. All of you must fear and respect the God of Daniel. Daniel's God is the living God. He lives forever. His kingdom will never be destroyed. His rule will never end. {27} God rescues and saves people. God does mighty miracles in heaven and on earth. God saved Daniel from the power of the lions."

Be faithful to God... and others.

Do you know what the word faithful means? It means to be devoted, constant and dependable, What are some of the miracles that happened in the Bible to faithful people?