

Sources of Courage
Daniel 6:6-13, 16-17, 21-23

The story of Daniel in the lion's den is well-known. It may surprise you to know that Daniel was more than ____ years old when these events unfolded. God had not finished with His prophet. He required Daniel to come face to face with the greatest challenge of his life. He had to answer one basic question: Do you have the _____ to _____ me when your life is literally at stake?

We all know that Daniel came out of the lion's den alive. But Daniel didn't know with certainty that he would _____. We have no _____ from God that we won't struggle or suffer or even _____ for our faith. How did Daniel have courage, and how can we?

The most important thing that Daniel did that prepared him to face the lions' den with courage was this: He was faithful in _____. Prayer was the _____ of his faith. Prayer enabled him to experience God as a _____ just as real as the persons in his life he could see and touch. Prayer is more about getting to _____ than getting _____.

Prayer was a part of the larger picture of Daniel's faith. It exemplified his consistent and _____ to God. Numerous times, he was called upon to interpret the king's dreams and once, handwriting on the wall. Each time, Daniel accepted the challenge and used it as an opportunity not to serve _____ but to serve _____. Each of these experiences of service to God followed by God's gracious _____ provided the _____ of faith necessary to be courageous when this greatest test came.

When we are faithful in service to God and we see along the way how He is _____ and _____ us to accomplish His will, our courage and confidence _____ as well.

By the _____ of Jesus, our knowledge of God through _____ and the confidence that comes from faithful _____ to Him, may we grow in our courage to face down the lion, the _____, and _____ for Him who _____ for us!