



REMEMBERING GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

Daniel prayed three times a day, just as he had always done, giving thanks to his God. – Daniel 6:10b

DANIEL IN THE LIONS' DEN

READ DANIEL 6

Did you know there's a world record for the longest recorded pen pal friendship? It lasted 78 years and 160 days. Can you imagine the shared history between those two friends? The major life events they would have shared, from graduations to marriages to children and grandchildren? There is something to be said for shared history. There's something wonderful about having a friend who knows all of your milestones almost as well as you know them yourself.

This Bible story from Daniel 6 marks an event that must have been a milestone in Daniel's life and faith. After choosing to continue to pray to God even though it had been forbidden by law, he was thrown in the lions' den. Can you imagine the fear and doubt that he might have battled as he faced what seemed to be his certain death? He must have been reminding himself over and over again of how faithful God had been in the past. He had a history of milestones to look back on: all of the times God had come through for him, answered prayers, and rescued him from difficult situations. He knew that God would be with him, and God was! God protected Daniel and saved his life.

The longer we walk with God, the more opportunities we have to establish our own milestones – our own memories of the ways God has come through for us time and time again. It may not always be in the ways we had hoped, but he is always faithful. He is always present with us in our troubles. Just like we find comfort in shared history with friends who have known us for most of our lives, we can find even greater comfort in our history with God. He never changes and he will be with us in our tomorrows just as he is with us today and has been with us in our yesterdays. He is the God who is always faithful.

QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT

1. Take a few minutes to think back on your faith journey. What are the important milestones? What experiences can you remind yourself of in hard times?
2. What has God rescued you from? Who in your life needs to hear about your experience?
3. When God hasn't "rescued" you in the way you had hoped, what lessons did you learn? How did God still show himself faithful?