

# The Story at Home



Grades 2-3-4  
Grades 5/6

**Timeless Truth:** Daniel is loyal to God and God protects him. I can be loyal to God.

**Bible Verse:** “[Daniel] went to his room three times a day to pray. He got down on his knees and gave thanks to his God.”

Daniel 6:10

**Key Passages:** Daniel 6:1–23

**Resources:** *The Story for Children*  
Ch. 18: “God Watches over Daniel”

Daniel was forced to have a sleepover with some hairy, scary friends. Follow his example—sort of—by planning a family sleepover. You can do it in your bedroom, a living room, or family room. Pick either a Friday or Saturday night and plan ahead to make it fun. At the beginning you can pray, “God, you protected Daniel during his sleepover with the lions, and we know you’ll be with us tonight, too. Amen.” Try these ideas or make up some of your own to create some family memories.

- Play Simon Says.
- Play one of your kids’ favorite board games.
- Put together a puzzle.
- Have everybody write down a tongue twister (or make one up). Fold up each paper and put it in a hat. Take turns drawing one and trying to say the tongue twister five times fast.
- Play charades. Have family members act out the title to a favorite song, movie, or TV show.
- Hide the thimble. Take turns hiding a thimble (or other small object) in the room with nobody looking. As everybody searches, the “hider” gives clues by saying, “You’re getting warmer” (if a person is close to finding it) or “You’re getting colder” (if a person is going the wrong direction).
- Share characteristics of each person that you appreciate.
- Make a yummy dessert or snack as a family.

God's protecting angels show up a couple of times during this chapter of The Story. First, when Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego are thrown into the fiery furnace, King Nebuchadnezzar sees 4 people in the flames—instead of 3. He exclaims, "The fourth man looks like a son of the gods" (Dan 3:25). Then when Daniel is thrown into the lions' den, he tells King Darius, "My God sent his angel. And his angel shut the mouths of the lions" (Dan 6:21). Do you think God sends his protecting angels today?

Angels are specially created beings by God. They serve the wishes of their heavenly father. Look at these other verses about angels: Exodus 14:19–20; Judges 6:12–22; Matthew 2:13–20. God's angels are mentioned throughout the Bible!

- Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah (or Belteshazzar, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego) were taken from Judah and brought to Babylon. But they refused to give up God's rules and follow new customs. Have you ever been in a situation where you felt you had to abandon God's standards to fit in?
- Daniel and his friends ate vegetables and drank water, instead of eating the king's food. What happened?
- How else did Daniel and his friends stand out?
- Do you think Daniel was stuck up?
- Is always doing things God's way a bad thing? If not, why is it so hard to make the decision to always follow God?
- How was Daniel able to make the decision to always follow God?



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