

Read Imaginatively

TODAY'S PASSAGE:

Daniel 6

Read Daniel 6 to remind yourself of this well-known story. Then put your imagination in gear as you read the chapter again – this time trying to put yourself in Daniel's place.

First try to determine how you would feel if you were Daniel. Suppose you have gone out of your way to remain faithful to God in an environment where you may be one of the only people who fear God. You know how you ought to feel in such a situation, but try to identify how you would really feel if this were happening to you instead of Daniel.

- How would you feel about peers who went out of their way to find you guilty when you had done nothing wrong?
- How would you feel about a boss who claimed to like you, but wouldn't stand up for you under pressure from the group?
- How would you feel about God's willingness to let you be found guilty and sentenced?
- How would you feel about yourself when your faithfulness had apparently gotten you nowhere?
- As Daniel was thrown into the lion's den, do you think he had absolute confidence that God would see him through this trial alive?
- Do you think he expected to die?
- Do you think he might have been the least bit scared?
- If you were in Daniel's position what would you be thinking?

Try to envision his ordeal:

- He spent the night in the den of lions. Could he even see the big cats or could he only hear them pacing?
- How do you suppose the place smelled?
- How would you have passed the time?
- As hours went by without being mauled, would you grow more confident or more nervous?
- Upon your release, would you have been as gracious as Daniel was to the king? How would you have felt about the judgment that was pronounced on your accusers?