

Daniel's prayer of praise

Daniel faced a tricky situation as he tried to work out the meaning of King Nebuchadnezzar's dream.

When God reveals it to Daniel, he begins to say a prayer of praise.

**'Praise God forever and ever.
He has wisdom and power.
He changes the times and seasons of the year.
He takes away the power of kings.
And he gives their power to new kings.
He gives wisdom to people so they become wise.
And he helps people learn and know things.
He makes known secrets that are deep and hidden.
He knows what is hidden in darkness,
and light lives with him.
I thank you and praise you, God of my ancestors.
You have given me wisdom and power.
You told me what we asked of you.
You told us about the king's dream.'**

Daniel 2: 20-23 (ICB)

Think back over the last school year.

- What kind of prayers have you prayed?
- How has God answered your prayers?
- What are you thankful for?



Write a prayer of praise and thanksgiving to God, just like Daniel did.

Daniel's prayer routine

Daniel's prayer routine got him into a lot of trouble as the royal advisors used it against him.

They were jealous of Daniel and encouraged the king to make Daniel's prayer to God illegal.

Daniel faced a night in the lions' den just because he wouldn't change his prayer routine.

That's how important prayer was to Daniel.

He felt secure in God because he spent so much time with him.

'When Daniel heard that the new law had been written, he went to his house. He went to his upstairs room. The windows of that room opened toward Jerusalem. Three times each day Daniel got down on his knees and prayed. He prayed and thanked God, just as he always had done.'

Daniel 6:10 (ICB)

How often do you spend time praying to God? Don't feel bad if you don't pray much at the moment.

The idea of this activity is not to make you feel guilty about how much or little you pray.

God loves spending time with us, and the more we pray, the more we get to know him.

Daniel felt secure because he spent so much time praying to God and reading Scripture.



Create a prayer plan for yourself that will take you through next week and plan in slots of time where you can spend time praying to God.

Daniel 9

In chapter 9 Daniel spends time sharing with God all his worries and concerns.

He also recognises the things that he has done wrong, and the ways in which his people have turned away from God.

Daniel gives thanks, asks for forgiveness and prays for himself and the situations around him.

We can use this example of prayer ourselves.



Use the **PRAY** acronym to spend time with God.

P – Praise
God, I praise you because ...

R – Repent
Forgive me, Lord, for ...

A – Ask
God, I ask that you would ...

Y – Yes
Yes, Lord, thank you for answering these prayers ...