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Come out of the
fire stronger!

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WHAT'S IN THIS Study?

DAY 1: God's Plan

DAY 2: Resolving to Do Right

DAY 3: Fervent Faith

DAY 4: The God Who Gives Wisdom

DAY 5: Absolute Confidence

DAY 6: A Choice of Glory

DAY 7: He Is Able to Humble

DAY 8: He Will Be Honored

DAY 9: An Excellent Spirit

DAY 10: Consistent Faith

DAY 11: Switching Things Up

DAY 12: The Ancient of Days

DAY 13: Trusting When We Don't Understand

DAY 14: The Covenant-Keeping God

DAY 15: The Importance of Confession

DAY 16: The Struggle Around Us

DAY 17: Earthly Kingdoms Rise and Fall

DAY 18: Salvation for Those Who Believe

DAY 19: Blessing for Those Who Wait

DAY 20: Beholding His Face



Junior Level

Ages 8 - 12

“The nursery looks so good!” Mrs. Janie exclaimed. “I can tell you worked really hard in there today.”

I stopped for a second—yes, I had been cleaning all day at the church work day, but I had actually been working in the teen room, not the nursery. I thought about just thanking her and moving on, but I didn’t want to take the credit for something I had nothing to do with.



“Thank you so much, Mrs. Janie,” I responded, “but I was actually working in the teen room. I think Hannah was the one who got the nursery looking so beautiful.”

Have you ever been tempted to take credit for something you didn’t do?

□ YES □ NO

Read **Daniel 4:1-3**. What is Nebuchadnezzar doing?

At the beginning of this chapter, King Nebuchadnezzar tells the people that he wants them to know the mighty things God has done in his life. Then, Nebuchadnezzar tells what happened to him and how he learned this truth about God.

In Daniel 4:4-18, Nebuchadnezzar had ANOTHER dream! This time he saw a big, beautiful tree that was chopped down. All that was left was the stump. Daniel was called along with all the other wise men so that they could interpret Nebuchadnezzar’s dream.

Read **Daniel 4:19–22**. Circle Daniel’s response to this dream.

Excited

Troubled

God showed Daniel the meaning of this dream, and Daniel was troubled. He even went so far as to wish that what the dream was revealing would happen to the king’s enemies instead of the king! Yet God made it clear to Daniel that the tree represented Nebuchadnezzar in this dream.

Read ^{TEEN VERSES} **Daniel 4:23–27**. What would Nebuchadnezzar become like?

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God was not being cruel to Nebuchadnezzar or punishing him in an extreme way—this was what was necessary for the king to understand his place. He needed to know that God had raised him up as king and that God was completely able to destroy him as well.

We have the **choice** to give glory to God
or try to steal it for ourselves.

Many times, we act like Nebuchadnezzar. We take the praise or glory for a talent or ability we have. We boast about winning a game or getting a good test score. We have nothing to be prideful of—every ability, talent, and possession has been graciously given to us by our God.

Put a star by the ways that you can praise God and give Him glory in your life. Then, put an “X” on the ones that show pride instead of giving glory to God.

humbly listen	SHOW OFF
brag to others	Give Thanks
SERVE OTHERS	lie or cheat

Today, ask God to forgive you for any way you have been proud or not given Him the praise He deserves. Thank Him for His work and His kindness in your life.

Youth Level

Ages 13+

"The nursery looks so good!" Mrs. Janie exclaimed. "I can tell you worked really hard in there today."

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"Thank you so much, Mrs. Janie," I responded, "but I was actually working in the teen room. I think Hannah was the one who got the nursery looking so beautiful."



Have you ever been tempted to take credit for something you didn't do? Why?

Read *Daniel 4:1-3*. What is Nebuchadnezzar saying about God?

At the beginning of this chapter, we see Nebuchadnezzar gathering the people in his kingdom and announcing to them that God is mighty and His kingdom endures forever. King Nebuchadnezzar tells the people that he wants them to know the mighty things God has done in his life. Then, Nebuchadnezzar tells what happened to him and how he learned this truth about God.

Read *Daniel 4:4-18*. What happened to Nebuchadnezzar again?

He had ANOTHER dream! God clearly had something He wanted the king to understand. Daniel was called along with all the other wise men so that they could interpret Nebuchadnezzar's dream.

Read *Daniel 4:19-22*. How does Daniel respond when he hears the dream?

God showed Daniel the meaning of this dream, and Daniel was troubled. He even went so far as to wish that what the dream was revealing would happen to the king's enemies instead of the king! Yet God made it clear to Daniel that the tree represented Nebuchadnezzar in this dream.

Read  **KEY VERSES** *Daniel 4: 23-27*. What was the interpretation and meaning of the dream?

Can you imagine hearing that this was going to happen to you? How would you respond if you were told that God saw your pride and He was going to humble you? What would you be thinking if you knew that you would become like an animal, be chased out of your home, and have to live outside in the wilderness for seven years?

What thoughts would be going through your mind if God revealed something like this to you?

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We have the *choice* to give glory to God
or try to steal it for ourselves.

Many times, we act like Nebuchadnezzar. We take the praise or glory for a talent or ability we possess. We boast about our test scores or competition rankings. We brag about the winning shot we made in the game. Yet God is the One who has given us breath in our lungs, movement in our bodies, and the privilege of using our brains to think and learn. We have nothing to be prideful of—every ability, talent, and possession has been graciously given to us by our God.

Is there any area in your life where you are stealing the glory for something God deserves the praise for? What does that look like specifically?

Today, ask God to forgive you for any way you have been proud or not given Him the praise He deserves. Thank Him for His work and His kindness in your life.

What are some ways that you can instead *praise* God and give Him glory in your life?

Parent Guide

Have you ever been tempted to take credit for something you didn't do? Why?

Read *Daniel 4:1-3*. What is Nebuchadnezzar saying about God?

At the beginning of this chapter, we see Nebuchadnezzar gathering the people in his kingdom and announcing to them that God is mighty and His kingdom endures forever. King Nebuchadnezzar tells the people that he wants them to know the mighty things God has done in his life.

Read *Daniel 4:4-18*. What happened to Nebuchadnezzar again?

God clearly had something He wanted the king to understand. Daniel was called along with all the other wise men so that they could interpret Nebuchadnezzar's dream.

Read *Daniel 4:19-22*. How does Daniel respond when he hears the dream?

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Pride is a difficult thing to navigate with our kids! Often, our children ARE proud of their accomplishments, and we’re “proud” of them as well. Of course, receiving satisfaction for hard work is good and appropriate, but it is also important to remember where our talents and abilities come from. Think about this when you are giving praise to your children. Together with your child, give the praise to God for His gifts to them!

Is there any area in your life where you are stealing the glory for something God deserves the praise for? What does that look like specifically?

What are some ways that you can instead *praise* God and give Him glory in your life?

Today, ask God to forgive you for any way you have been proud or not given Him the praise He deserves. Thank Him for His work and His kindness in your life.

Scripture: Daniel 4:23–27
Key Truth: We have the choice to give glory to God or try to steal it for ourselves.

Discussion: What talents or treasures have you been tempted to take credit for? What are some ways that you can give glory to God instead of yourself?

INCREASE YOUR FAITHFULNESS
to God and others with this powerful series!

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PARENT GUIDE DOES NOT INCLUDE PUZZLE ERASERS, TECH STICKERS, OR PENCILS.





FIRED UP!

Do you ever look at stories of courageous faith and wonder if you would be able to stand strong in the same situation? Maybe you even feel fearful that you would fail if faced with a similar challenge. Where does the kind of **confidence** that stands up to fiery furnaces and lions' dens even come from?

The book of Daniel is more than just two stories about a fiery furnace and a lion's den. This portion of God's Word teaches us about our omnipotent God and His **plan** for the lives of each and every one of His children. Through knowing and trusting this God, Daniel and his friends were able to consistently honor Him through their lives and actions, and we can do this too!

