

Daniel was a person of prayer. *Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God and asking God for help.* He was even thrown into the lion's den for praying. However, *when Daniel was lifted from the den, no wound was found on him, because he had trusted in his God* (from Daniel 6:10-23).

One of Daniel's prayers is recorded in Scripture. He appealed to God's character and reputation, confessed sin, and asked God to listen, forgive, hear, and act. Here is what he prayed:

*O, Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with all who love him and obey his commands, we have sinned and done wrong. We have been wicked and rebelled; we have turned away from your commands and laws. We have not listened. . . . Lord, you are righteous, but this day we are covered with shame. . . . you have scattered us because of our unfaithfulness to you. . . . we have sinned against you. The Lord our God is merciful and forgiving, even though we have rebelled against him. . . . The Lord our God is righteous in all he does, yet we have not obeyed him. . . . O Lord, in keeping with all your righteous acts, turn away your anger and your wrath. . . .*

*Now, our God, hear the prayers and petitions of your servant. For your sake, O Lord, look with favor on your desolate sanctuary. Give ear, O God, and hear; open your eyes and see the desolation of the city that bears your Name. We do not make requests of you because we are righteous, but because of your great mercy. O Lord, listen! O Lord, forgive! O Lord, hear and act! For your sake, O my God, do not delay, because your city and your people bear your Name* (Daniel 9:4-19).

We're told the outcome of that prayer:

*While I was still in prayer, Gabriel came and said to me, "As soon as you began to pray, an answer was given, which I have come to tell you, for you are highly esteemed* (from Daniel 9:21-23).

We can pray like Daniel did.