



God is with you

Daniel's Friends and the Fiery Furnace
Daniel 3:12-21, 24-28

Granny B looked down by the stream for Delbert and Lello. She looked for them in the garden, and then she checked the barn. Granny B wanted to hear about their swim in the stream, but she couldn't find them anywhere. Finally, she decided to head home. As she came down the path and looked up at the farmhouse porch, she laughed out loud. There, sitting on the porch, Delbert and Lello were waiting for her!

"Hello, my little ones," Granny B called with a wave.

"Granny B!" shouted Delbert and Lello.

Granny B walked up the steps and asked, "How was your trip to the stream?"

Delbert jumped up, "Haw! It was great. We counted how many things the stream touched and made grow."

Lello nodded in agreement but looked a little concerned. "Baa. But ... the stream was a little scary. It was so deep and wide and there were waves. I don't know if I want to go back."

Granny B rubbed Lello's ears and sat down in her rocking chair. She pulled out her Bible and opened it. Then, she patted the seats next to her and Delbert and Lello snuggled on either side of her lap.

"I have a story from the Bible that may help you a little," Granny B started. "There were three friends named Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego."

Delbert snorted, "A-bending-goat?"

Lello leaned closer to Delbert and whispered, "Delbert, it's Abednego."

"The friends were thrown into a fire by an angry king," Granny B continued.

Lello and Delbert's eyes grew wide with concern.

"Haw! What happened to Shadrach, Meshach, and A-red-lego?" Delbert asked.

Again, Lello leaned in and whispered a little louder, "Delbert, it's Abednego."

Granny B smiled then kept reading, "Well, the king looked into the fire and he didn't see three men, he saw four!"

"Baa! Who was the fourth man?" Lello asked curiously.

"God was with them!" Granny B explained cheerfully.

Delbert looked concerned still and asked, "Did the fire burn Shadrach, Meshach, and A-big-taco?"

Lello giggled and whispered, "Delbert, it's Abednego."

Delbert giggled, too, and looked at Granny B, waiting for her answer.

"Don't worry, Delbert. They weren't burned," Granny B explained.

"Were they really hot?" Lello asked.

"No." Granny B smiled.

"Did they smell like smoke?" Delbert asked.

"No." Granny B smiled again. "Remember, God is Lord of all."

Lello leaned in toward Granny B and asked, "Even of the fire?"

Granny B nodded. She closed her Bible and watched as Delbert and Lello thought about the story she had just shared with them. Suddenly, she noticed Delbert's eyebrows rise.

"Haw! Lello! If God was with them in the fire, then ..." Delbert began.

Lello immediately understood what Delbert was starting to say and together they said, " ... God was with us at the stream!"

"Baa! You're right, Delbert. I didn't need to be afraid. Do you think we could go sit by the stream and watch the waves?" Lello asked.

Granny B and Delbert both stood up and said, "Of course!" Then, together the three friends began walking toward the stream, chatting about Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego as they went.