

# Patrik's Boring Day

*Patrik's older brothers were always too busy for him.*



**By Rebekah Jakeman**  
(Based on a true story)

*This story happened in Romania.*

Patrik stared up at the ceiling as he lay sprawled on his bed. He was bored. He had already read his animal books, jumped on the trampoline, and rode his bike around the neighborhood. What could he do now?

Patrik got up and walked to his older brother Daniel's room. "Will you play with me?" Patrik asked.

"Sorry, I can't. I have to study," Daniel said. He didn't even look up from the book he was reading.

Patrik felt his heart sink. Daniel was *always* studying. Couldn't he take a break?

Oh well. Daniel was busy, but Patrik could ask his other brother, Simion. "I'm bored. Can you play with me?" Patrik asked.

"No, not today. I'm going out with friends." Simion put on his jacket and walked out the front door.

Patrik was so mad! His heart beat faster. His older brothers were *always* too busy for him. He ran to his bedroom and slammed the door.

*It's not fair!* Patrik thought.

He stomped his foot and flopped onto his bed. His chest felt tight. He was so bored! But he felt too mad to think of something to do.

Then he remembered something he learned at school. His teacher taught them that taking deep breaths could help them feel calm.

"It's hard to fix anything when you feel angry," she had said. Maybe if he was calmer, Patrik could think of a way to solve his boredom problem.

So Patrik took a big, deep breath. Then he took another. After a few more, his chest didn't feel so tight anymore. But he still didn't know what to do.

He sat up and looked at the picture of Jesus Christ on his wall. What would He want Patrik to do?

Patrik got down on his knees. "Heavenly Father, please help Daniel as he studies," he said. "Help Simion to have fun with his friends. And please help

me to not be so bored."

When he finished his prayer, Patrik had an idea. He raced down to Daniel's room.

"Daniel, when you're done, can we play together?"

Daniel looked up from his book at the clock on the wall. "I can take a break in about 30 minutes. Then we could go outside. Do you want to do that?"

"Yes!" Patrik smiled and ran back to his room. He found an animal book about tigers he liked looking at. After reading it for a while, he played with blocks. Soon the time had passed, and he and Daniel headed toward the woods near their house.

"Do you want to play warriors in space or explorers in the jungle?" Daniel asked.

"I don't care. I'm just glad we can spend time together. It's a lot better than being bored," Patrik said.

Daniel grinned. "Well, playing with you is a lot more fun than studying for a test."

Patrik felt happy as he and Daniel crawled through the grass. Calming down had helped him to think more clearly so he could solve his problem. And Heavenly Father had helped him to be more like Jesus Christ. It was turning out to be a good day after all. ●



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