

Use the following growth group discussion questions to deepen your relationship with God, his Word and others.

BREAK IT OUT:

1. The book of Daniel contains some of the most iconic stories in the Bible. What story is your favorite? Why?
2. What got your attention or surprised you in Sunday's sermon?

TALK IT OUT:

3. What would be an equivalent choice between God's way and the "royal food" of the world today (*Daniel 1:8*)?
4. Name a few non-negotiables we must decide on in our culture. Do non-negotiables change? Why or why not?
5. How can our prayer life be like the prayer lives of Daniel and his friends (*Daniel 2:17, 6:10*)?
6. Daniel humbled himself before meeting God in prayer (*Daniel 9:3, 10:12*). How should we prepare to meet God in prayer?
7. How do we remain faithful to a God who is able "even if he doesn't" rescue us (*Daniel 3:16-18*)?
8. How much are we willing to risk to obey a clear command of God? Where do we struggle? Why?

WORK IT OUT:

9. As a result of this sermon, what can your next steps with God and others be?
10. How can your growth group help you in this journey?

FINISHING STRONG

18/31 in the series The Story
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Daniel faces unbelievable pressure to compromise his faith in a hostile culture and enemy territory. He was constantly confronted by temptations and threats. Yet Daniel and his three friends modeled how to finish strong in an enticing world. Many generations have come and gone, but the lessons penned by Daniel still hold true for us.

1. **Victory begins in the mind** - (*Daniel 1:3-4, 7-8; Genesis 3:6; Joshua 7:18-21; Romans 12:2, Daniel 10:12; Proverbs 4:23*). We must decide our non-negotiables in advance.
2. **Prayer releases the abundant mercies of God** - (*Daniel 2:5, 14-18, 47; 9:3, 18-19; John 16:24*). We must train ourselves to make prayer a default reaction in all situations.
3. **Pressure proves our convictions** - (*Luke 22:33; Daniel 3:4-6, 16-18; Ephesians 3:20; Daniel 6:5, 7, 10, 22; Hebrews 11:37-38; Daniel 11:32*). We must strive to be faithful in all circumstances.

Application

Daniel prophesied that the people who know their God will strongly resist the enemy (*Daniel 11:32*).
Do you know your God well enough to do this?

NEXT WEEK • 19/31: THE STORY
A FRESH RETURN HOME