

# DANIEL AND THE LION'S DEN

Daniel 6:1-28



## SYNOPSIS

This past Sunday, Pastor Peter preached on the passage of Daniel in the Lion's Den. We read about the faith of Daniel while he is in the lion's den, but more importantly, we take a look at the faith of Daniel that lands him in the lion's den.

Daniel lived a life of integrity with great exceptionalism. We see that the Spirit of God enables him to live a life of integrity "because an excellent spirit was within him" to show and display the heart of God.

We also see in this passage that there is a spiritual battle happening that results in clashes between God's way and the world's way. Fast forward a few centuries and we also find Jesus telling us the same reality, that we should not be surprised when we are faced with persecution, slander, malice, or hatred on account of His name. When we face these clashes, how will we respond?

There are many ways we can justify our decisions or come up with excuses that lead to compromises in our conviction. For a lot of us, prayerlessness is the reason why we've drifted so far away from Christ where it becomes normal to compromise. But what encourages us is that we can go to God in prayer and He will strengthen us.

Ultimately, we realize that there is only one true Deliverer whom we can trust. The crux of this chapter is in the middle of the story, where Darius hopes for Daniel's deliverance from God and ultimately is able to witness Daniel's deliverance by God.



## OUTLINE

### 1 INTEGRITY IN THE FACE OF OPPOSITION

We should not be surprised when we face opposition in this age. Jesus tells us to expect it, especially in the clashing of values. Nevertheless, we are strengthened to live a life of integrity because God has given us the Holy Spirit to help us in our time of need.

Even though Daniel could have made many excuses to pause in prayer for thirty days, (ex: it's only thirty days... his position is so much more important and the influence he could have... he could pray in private and God sees his heart) he continues to pray and seek God. Prayer and intimacy is the key to faithfulness.

### 2 GOD IS THE TRUE DELIVERER

Ultimately, we see that God is the only one who can deliver us. In the predicaments we face and in the opposition that may come our way, we hold fast to the hope that we have that God is the one who is the true deliverer. Even Darius with all of his might and power could not deliver Daniel from the Lion's Den - but God protected him from the lions. May we also find our hope and trust in Him.



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## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1

Icebreaker: What is one of the scariest (or stickiest) situation you've gone through in recent memory?

2

What are some things in your life that you've experienced where biblical values have clashed with secular values? How did that challenge you to think about your faith and your view of God?

3

How does the truth that God is our one true deliverer give us hope especially in moments where we may be challenged or face temptations?

4

Pastor Peter mentioned the many excuses that Daniel could have made - which one do you resonate with the most? Or what excuse do you think you would tend to make? Why?

5

Spend some time praying for one another for the filling of the Holy Spirit to strengthen one another to live a life of integrity, steadfastness, and conviction.



## BIG IDEA

Sometimes our faith will land us in tough places. We may face opposition, persecution, slander, hatred from the world - but Jesus says don't be surprised. In the midst of trials and tribulations, Jesus tells us to take heart for he has overcome the world. We can be confident - not only that we have been given the Holy Spirit to strengthen us in our time of need, but also that ultimately God is the true deliverer that we place our trust in.