**TRUSTING GOD NO MATTER WHAT**

**Daniel 6:1-28**

**LIKE DANIEL WE SHOULD DISTINGUISH OURSELVES FROM NON-CHRISTIANS BY THE WAY WE LOVE AND SERVE GOD**

* **Our lives should be lived in such a way that even our enemies take notice of our virtuous lifestyle.**
* *“Daniel distinguished himself above the administrators and satraps because he had an extraordinary spirit, so the king planned to set him over the whole realm. 4 The administrators and satraps, therefore, kept trying to find a charge against Daniel regarding the kingdom. But they could find no charge or corruption, for he was trustworthy, and no negligence or corruption was found in him. 5 Then these men said, ‘We will never find any charge against this Daniel unless we find something against him concerning the law of his God.’”* (Daniel 6:3-5)
* **We must walk in integrity EVEN IF it may cost us something!**

**LIKE DANIEL WE MUST REMAIN FAITHFUL TO GOD IN SPITE OF WORLDY PRESSURE OR THREATS**

* **Christians do not get a free pass from problems and opposition. Rather, we welcome those things because we serve a God who is bigger than anything that would come against us!**
* *“When Daniel learned that the document had been signed, he went into his house. The windows in its upstairs room opened toward Jerusalem, and three times a day he got down on his knees, prayed, and gave thanks to his God, just as he had done before. 11 Then these men went as a group and found Daniel petitioning and imploring his God. 12 So they approached the king and asked about his edict: ‘Didn’t you sign an edict that for thirty days any person who petitions any god or man except you, the king, will be thrown into the lions’ den?’”* (Daniel 6:10-12)
* *“Jesus told His disciples a story to show that they should always pray and never give up.”* (Luke 18:1 NLT)

**LIKE DANIEL WE CAN TRUST IN GOD’S DELIVERANCE**

* *“At the first light of dawn the king got up and hurried to the lions’ den. 20 When he reached the den, he cried out in anguish to Daniel. ‘Daniel, servant of the living God,’ the king said, ‘has your God, whom you continually serve, been able to rescue you from the lions?’ 21 Then Daniel spoke with the king: ‘May the king live forever. 22 My God sent his angel and shut the lions’ mouths; and they haven’t harmed me, for I was found innocent before him. And also before you, Your Majesty, I have not done harm.’”*(Daniel 6:19-22)
* *“In fact, all who want to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.”* (2 Timothy 3:12)
* **Just remember that God is bigger than any circumstance or situation we may face!**

**LIKE DANIEL GOD WILL USE OUR CIRCUMSTANCES TO GLORIFY HIS NAME AMONG THE WORLD**

* **Living in complete surrender to the Lord will lead to opportunities to influence non-believers from all walks of life.**
* *“Then King Darius wrote to those of every people, nation, and language who live on the whole earth: ‘May your prosperity abound. 26 I issue a decree that in all my royal dominion, people must tremble in fear before the God of Daniel:*

 *For he is the living God, and he endures forever; his kingdom will never be destroyed, and his dominion has no end. 27 He rescues and delivers; he performs signs and wonders in the heavens and on the earth, for he has rescued Daniel from the power of the lions.’*

 *28 So Daniel prospered during the reign of Darius and the reign of Cyrus the Persian.”* (Daniel 6:25-28)

* **No matter what obstacles you face to deter you from remaining faithful, always remember that non-believers are watching, and their eternity may be influenced by your actions.**

**Connect Group Discussion**

**Understanding:**

* What does Daniel 6:1-28 teach us about God/Jesus?
* What is the main message of Daniel 6?

**Digging Deeper:**

* What can we learn from Daniel about how to live faithfully in a culture that doesn’t honor God?
* What characteristics allow Daniel to stand out in a pagan culture and ascend to high position in the kingdom?
* Why should those serving God faithfully expect opposition? How should we respond? (Give Scripture references)
* How do you personally prepare for when opposition will come?
* Daniel’s faith led him to civil disobedience (disobeying the law). In what circumstances should we be prepared to serve God rather than man?
* How does Daniel 6 reinforce the necessity of evangelism and our outward witness to the world being a reflection of Christ?