

# Daniel: Facing the Lions

Sermon Based Small Groups

## Introductions (pick one or two):

- 1) What was one challenge you faced in your life that you overcame?
- 2) Who was one person you knew or knew of that fought an overwhelming illness? How did his/her fight matter just as much as the result?
- 3) What was one time when you felt thrown into something without really being prepared for it?

## Getting into the Word:

The Book of Daniel follows the life of Daniel and his three friends to show how God is faithful, and how some of the people of Israel lived with integrity to God in an enticing world. Today, we will read and study Daniel 6 which records Daniel being thrown to the lions because of his faithfulness to God. This event is recorded to show how God remains faithful and sovereign over all nations and gives hope to those that are facing persecution because of their devotion to God.

## Scripture Questions:

In your discussion of the text and the sermon, please use the questions that are most helpful for you to better understand the core teaching of the text.

Read **Daniel 6** (please only answer 3-4 questions that will help you explore the main theme found in this text):

What was Daniel's intent in recording these events?

How does it fit into the book of Daniel (or the theme of Daniel) as a whole?

What did it look like for Daniel to stay faithful to God?

What was the result of his faithfulness to God?

What was the point in bringing Daniel up on bogus chargers?

What were Daniel's enemies hoping to accomplish?

How did this backfire on the men who opposed Daniel?

In what way was Daniel found "guilty of prayer"?

Why was prayer a crime in this culture?

If you were in Daniel's place, what would you be found guilty of?

What could disturb Daniel from his habit of prayer?

Why do you think this prayer time was such an important part of Daniel's life that not even the threat of death would change this time for him?

What was symbolic about Daniel praying towards Jerusalem?

What are some of the habits that are important to your relationship with God that you are rarely disturbed from?

How did Daniel react in the middle of a crisis?

How was his reaction different than the King's reaction?

What does this event tell us about our God?

How did God show that He was sovereign over all nations?

What is God saying in this text (the core teaching)?

**Discussion:** Please answer only 3-4 questions that will help you apply the main point of the text to your life.

What is one thing that you learned from the sermon?

Who have you known in your life whose life was marked by their faithfulness to God?

What are some of the things they had to face in their life?

How did they stay faithful to God amidst these circumstances?

What are some of the bogus charges that people accuse Christians of today?

What are they hoping to accomplish by attacking Christians in this way?

How does it backfire on them as it backfired on the men who opposed Daniel?

How do you react in the middle of a crisis?

What can you learn from Daniel?

What does this chapter tell us about living a life of integrity?

How can you apply this to your life this week?

What are you going to take away from this lesson?

**Prayer:**

"What do you need prayer for in this week?"

Pray for these requests as you see fit.

**For Further Study:**

**Daniel**, Beth Moore (DVD study)

**Don't Waste Your Life**, John Piper

**Becoming A Contagious Christian**, Bill Hybels, Mark Mittelberg

**Practicing the Presence of God**, Brother Lawrence

**The Barbarian Way: Unleash the Untamed Faith Within**, Erwin Raphael Mc