



Living with Lions, Week 4

2,400 years ago a man named Daniel was captured and forced to live in the hostile, godless nation of Babylon. If you think our culture is bad, his was worse. But he was able to thrive in the midst of the pressure, staying faithful to God and growing in influence.

Conversation Starter: *Have some fun as you break the ice.*

- What is the strangest dream you can remember having?
- Who is someone you look up to or ask for advice?

Key Scriptures: *Let God's word frame the conversation. Take a minute to read this selected passage together as a Group.*

- Daniel 4:4-8; 19-27

Discussion Questions: *Pick a few questions below to guide your time.*

Starting Sharing: *Choose a question or two to create openness.*

- Is there anything you would like to change about the world today?
- Why do you think humility is needed to reach others?
- Share when someone's approach turned you away from their point instead of drawing you closer.

Start Thinking: *Choose a question or two to think critically about the subject.*

- How does Daniel's "stand" differ from how we define it today
- Why is it so difficult to trust God with justice rather than seeking revenge?
- What is the problem with demonizing, criticizing, and alienating the culture in which Jesus wants us to engage?

Make it Personal: *Choose a question or two to help you identify your best next step.*

- What would someone conclude about God's trustworthiness if all they had were your reactions to draw their conclusion?
- What hills or soapboxes have you been elevating over God's love for people who are far from Him?
- How can you better balance conviction alongside compassion in your life?

Next Steps: *Everybody has a next step. Check out some ideas below to help you grow by doing.*

- **Pray-** When faced with difficult people or circumstances, choose to love them. *Pray, "God, they are mine to love and Yours to change."*
- **Remember-** Daniel remained calm and collected in Babylon because He remembered God's faithfulness in the past. Take some time to reflect on how God has come through in your life and the lives of others.

Prayer: *Invite God to do what only He can do!*

Heavenly Father, please help us to be people who show up with arms wide open. Help us live out our convictions with love and humility so we can point others to you.