

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

January 21, 2024

Worship in The Preaching of Scripture

Series: Faithful Witness in Exile - Daniel 1-6

Title: God Is Greater Than

Reference: [Daniel 3](#)

Upcoming Passages

January 28 - Daniel 4

February 4 - Daniel 5

February 11 - Daniel 6

February 18 - Daniel 7

GATHER

Icebreaker: What is your favorite TV show (or movie) that falls into the “comedy-drama” category? (Please note that “Chicago Bears football” is not an acceptable answer.)

GROW

1. Read Daniel 3 out loud in your group, taking mental notes on observations or questions you have. Before your group dives into the questions provided, take time to discuss your own observations and questions!
2. It's easy for us to point a finger at King Nebuchadnezzar for the pompous narcissism he shows throughout most of this story. But in what ways might our lives resemble the king, more than we care to admit? In what ways might we try to use the resources available to us to control circumstances (or people) to serve our own self-centered desires?
3. What can we learn from Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego's response in verses 16-18?
4. Have you ever been tempted to “make a deal” with God (“God, I’m faithful to you, so will you give me X or Y”)? What attitudes/beliefs are present within that mindset that God needs to refine within us?
5. How does the fact that God didn't spare Jesus from harm and hardship transform the way you view the times in your life when God may not choose to spare you from harm and hardship?

Go

6. Look again at verses 28-30. Who do you know that doesn't know Christ and needs to experience God's power like Nebuchadnezzar did? Go around your group and pray for these people by name.

Parent Cue: These questions are designed to help parents engage their students with what they heard during Sunday morning's message whenever and wherever the Spirit would allow. Their purpose is not primarily for formation or even correction, but for a holy curiosity to learn what is going on in the hearts and minds of our students as they hear God's word.

1. **Icebreaker:** "What's your favorite funny TV show (or movie), and what's your favorite serious show/action show (or movie)?"
2. **Heart question:** If everyone around you was doing something that wasn't honoring to God...wouldn't it just be easier to go along with the crowd? If you didn't go along with the crowd (including your best friends!), how would that make you feel?
3. **Head question:** If someone was being faithful to God, why wouldn't God just decide to protect them every time? Why would God sometimes allow hard things to happen to people who are trying to obey Him and honor Him?
4. **Hands question:** Who is someone you know that's going through a hard time in their life right now? What can you do (or what can our family do) to help them remember that they're not alone...and even to remember that God loves them and wants to be there for them?