

LIFE GROUP GUIDE

Daniel

Week 5

GOALS

- To grow in God's word together and our understanding of where this Old Testament story fits in greater gospel narrative
- To reflect on faith and work.

TIPS

- It would be great if you can keep the group excited about the devotion. Come prepared for how your own devotional journey is going.
- This series is theological, it is preferable to have listened to the Sunday messages, especially the person leading the Life Group discussion.
- Life Group Leaders, we suggest doing a little more reading of Daniel commentary over this series to equip yourself for leading well. It is our hope that over these series, our leaders are going deeper in Scripture to be able to lead out of a richer depth of pursuit and understanding of God and his word. Some good commentaries to consider reading over this time:
- <http://www.slices.org.uk/Slicesforall/sfeDaniel.html>
- <https://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/matthew-henry-complete/daniel/>

HEADLINES

Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them." (Daniel 10:12)

The account of Daniel is rich with training in courage, prophecy, prayer and dependence on God through adversity and triumph. We learn more about the sovereignty of God over kingdoms and regimes, as well as key character lessons from the faith and obedience of Daniel.

The reasons for only doing a portion of Daniel is that it is such a rich part of the Bible that we would rather do less really well, as opposed to trying to cram the whole book into 5 weeks.

PRAYER

Open in prayer. Consider getting someone in your group to come prepared to do this section.

DISCUSSION

1. Did anyone have any take-home applications or thoughts after Sunday?
2. Have you had much opportunity to share or demonstrate your faith at your workplace? What do you think faith and work looks like ideally?
3. What is your current work space like? Are you thriving? Causing thriving? Looking for work? Looking for a new job?

Someone read the following scriptures: Daniel 6:19-28

4. What stands out for you about this section of scripture?
5. Thinking through the lens of a workplace, what does this passage suggest about God's thoughts on our work lives?

God is interested in our work, God uses us in our workplaces for his glory, God wants us to thrive and cause thriving in our workplaces, God doesn't want us to compromise or be combative in how we take a stand at work, God wants us to bear more responsibility through proving diligent and trustworthy.

6. In context of these realities, how do you feel you are doing work and faith-wise? Are there areas that you are praying for breakthrough? Are there areas of difficulties? Are you praying for a new job?
7. What does the story of Daniel suggest about our lives of prayer intersecting with our lives of work? How can we pray for our city in these regards?

PRAY

Spend some time praying for the answers that came up in five and six. Pray for your places of work and the city. Pray for employment levels in Cape Town.

IN PREPARATION FOR NEXT WEEK

Remind your group to be going back to Ephesians next week in an exciting sub-series called Walk This Way. Your group can read Ephesians 4 in preparation.