

Mentor/Student Discussion Guide

Daniel

March 2022

*Your goals in your time together today are check in with one another and to discuss the stories of Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego and Daniel.

*Today you will need a pencil and a Connect Bible.

*It is just as important for youth to get to know mentors as it is for mentors to get to know youth. Both mentor and student should answer the questions for one another.

*Neither person should be made to feel that they should share more than they are comfortable sharing.

*You do not need to make sure you have answered every question listed below. They are provided merely as a way to guide your discussion. Neither should you feel limited to these questions.

*You will not be reporting answers to anyone. If it is helpful to write answers or take notes, feel free to do so knowing that it is not necessary.

*Please take a moment to pray together at the beginning of your time together. You may pray your own prayer or use the following (spoken by one person or both together).

Blessed be the name of God from age to age, for wisdom and power are his. He changes times and seasons, deposes kings and sets up kings; he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding. He reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what is in the darkness, and light dwells with him. To you, O God of my ancestors, I give thanks and praise... Amen (Daniel 2:20-23a)

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

Check in

*Check in about any events that have happened since or conversation from the last time you met.

*Each person share a high and a low (something good and something no-so-good that happened) from the previous week.

Video

*What did you learn about Daniel that you didn't know before?

*How would you describe Daniel to someone who didn't know his story?

Bible

*Read through the introduction to Daniel on page 968 of the Connect Bible.

*Read Daniel 1. What does the first chapter of this book tell you about the character and faith of Daniel?

*Read Daniel 3.

-Discuss the response of the three men to the king in verses 16-18. Did they know they would survive the furnace? Why do you think they chose the punishment instead of laying down before the statue?

*Read Daniel 6. (Note that Nebuchadnezzar's son, Belshazzar, became king after him. In Daniel 5:30-31, Belshazzar is killed and Darius becomes king.)

- Compare and contrast this episode with that of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.
- Why do you think Darius was unwilling to change the law even though he did not want Daniel to be punished?

Deeper Discussion

*How did being different than everyone else hurt Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego? How did it hurt them? Could they have made different decisions and still remained faithful to God?

*Do you know anyone who has a faith like Daniel's? Who is the first person in your own life that comes to mind when you hear the word faithful? How does that person inspire you in your own life of faith?

*What if Daniel had been killed by the lions? Would you consider him any less faithful if he had died in the den? Did God save Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego because of their faith? Does God's faithfulness to us depend on our faithfulness to God? How does God's faithfulness to us enable us to live out our faith in God?

*What do you and Daniel have in common? How are you different?

