

Life Group Discussion Guide

Feel free to use or leave out whichever questions you wish to in this study.

Pray that the Holy Spirit would lead the group.

To Start

Where have you experienced difference between the values you hold as a follower of Jesus, and the values of your culture?

Read and Discuss

Read Daniel 2:1-28

- Looking at this passage, are there some examples of pride and humility?
- Notice that Daniel handled the situation with “wisdom and discretion” (vs 17). Can you think of examples of situations where Christians have not responded this way? What has been the outcome? What is the value of dealing with situations as Daniel models?
- What do you notice about Daniel’s prayer life (vs 17-18-23)? How does this inspire you to pray? What are the challenges that you face in your prayer life?

Read Daniel 2:29-49

- What does this passage say about earthly kingdoms? How have you seen this take place?
- What does this passage say about God’s kingdom? How would you describe the kingdom of God?
- How does this passage give you hope?

Read & Pray

- Read again Daniel 2:20-23. Begin your prayer with praise and thanksgiving.
- Pray for people in your world who may be searching for truth.
- Pray for wisdom and discretion as you interact with your community.
- Pray for the persecuted church around the world.



Swimming Against The Flow

PART 2

MESSAGE NOTES &

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

The king said to Daniel “Truly, your God is the greatest of gods, the Lord over kings, a revealer of mysteries, for you have been able to reveal this secret.”

Daniel 2:47

Part 2 - Daniel Chapter 2 - Living Well in an Intimidating World

Daniel Chapter 2: 13-23

¹⁴ When Arioch, the commander of the king's guard, came to kill them, Daniel handled the situation with wisdom and discretion. ¹⁵ He asked Arioch, "Why has the king issued such a harsh decree?" So Arioch told him all that had happened. ¹⁶ Daniel went at once to see the king and requested more time to tell the king what the dream meant.

¹⁷ Then Daniel went home and told his friends Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah what had happened. ¹⁸ He urged them to ask the God of heaven to show them his mercy by telling them the secret, so they would not be executed along with the other wise men of Babylon. ¹⁹ That night the secret was revealed to Daniel in a vision. Then Daniel praised the God of heaven. ²⁰ He said,

"Praise the name of God forever and ever,
for he has all wisdom and power.

²¹ He controls the course of world events;
he removes kings and sets up other kings.

He gives wisdom to the wise
and knowledge to the scholars.

²² He reveals deep and mysterious things
and knows what lies hidden in darkness,
though he is surrounded by light.

²³ I thank and praise you, God of my ancestors,
for you have given me wisdom and strength.
You have told me what we asked of you
and revealed to us what the king demanded."

Notes

Living well in an Intimidating World

Daniel 2:1-13 – Setting the Stage: Keep Perspective

"No one except the gods can tell you your dream" vs 11

Ephesians 6:12

Who might be searching for the truth?

Daniel 2:14-28 – Behind the Scenes: Character Counts

"Daniel handled the situation with wisdom and discretion" vs 17

1 Peter 3:16

Who are you praying with?

Daniel 2:29-44 – The Big Reveal: The Ultimate Kingdom

"The God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed or conquered." Vs 44

Luke 1:30-33

What 'kingdoms' and human structures and systems are you tempted to put your hope in?

I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, "Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever." Revelation 21:3-4