

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of May 31-June 6, 2020

“3 ADMINS SURVIVE FURNACE! KING BACKS DOWN ON WORSHIP DECREE”

GETTING STARTED

To the facilitator: As your group begins, use this section to introduce the topic. If possible, give a brief recap of the sermon.

Share a memorable point, a spiritual lesson, a personal application, a question, or something that challenged you from the sermon last Sunday.

What three (3) things do you do first the moment you wake up? Can you trace the reason or the source of your habits?

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Read Daniel 3:1-15. The phrase “fall down” occurs four times in chapter 3 and each time is joined to the word “worship.” What does that say about the role of our actions to our worship? Do you agree with what Pastor Nic said that “Worship is what we do, and worship is who we are”?
2. *Discuss.* Why do you think Nebuchadnezzar sets up this impressive golden statue? What do you think was his motivation or reason for building such a huge and expensive idol?
3. *Share.* The phrase “set up” is repeated several times in this chapter referring to Nebuchadnezzar setting up the image, implying that it was the king who was behind it. Can you think of parallels in our time where people “set up” something and demand allegiance to it? What are some of these things that we see around us and in our culture? What might it mean for you not to bow down?
4. What do you make of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego’s response in Daniel 3:16-18? What stood out to you (e.g. in terms of what they said, their motivations and fears, their trust, their actions and decisions, etc.)?
5. Pastor Nic in the sermon talked about the “Unpredictability of God.” Why does this sound negative? What is something positive that should come out in the Christian who understands and accepts this?

6. Read Daniel 3:19-30. When you consider the story of the entire chapter, what does this tell us about God and about living as people in exile? How does the story intersect with your life?
7. In the sermon, Pastor Nic shared the principle “order communicates priority” as a way to be intentional about putting God first. Share some practical ways that this principle can help you to be more intentional in your worship of God.
8. **[NEXT STEPS]**
This week, be reminded of the principle that “worship is what we do, and worship is who we are.”
 - I will commit to go through the devotionals everyday this week.
 - I will seek to know more about who God is by regularly reading his Word.
 - I will commit to pray for 30 minutes a day (for one week) for God’s intervention in this fight against the COVID virus.
 - I will be aware of the idols that will draw me away from my worship of God.
 - I will trust God even in uncertain situations.
 - I will be intentional in my worship of God by _____.
 - I will respond to trials and sufferings by trusting God.
 - Other ways I will apply this lesson: _____.

CLOSING THE SESSION.

Close the session by taking the time to pray for one another. Consider the following as you pray:

- Pray that you will grow in your trust of God even in the face of uncertainty.
- Pray that there will be many souls that will come to Christ through this pandemic.
- Pray for those who are hurting, going through fear, worry and anxiety in the group.
- Pray for your unsaved family, friends and loved ones.