

LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

Watch the video summary of the **November 9, 2014 Sermon** (3.5 minutes), "The Lion's Den." Please read the sermon passage (Daniel 6:1-28) together out loud.

Sermon Outline:

A CHRISTIAN'S LIFE SHOULD EMBRACE . . .

1. **Cultural Engagement** (1-4)
 - a. Daniel lived his life in the midst of a culture which was absolutely counter to his Christian convictions.
 - b. Daniel did not compromise. He did not try to turn "Babylon" into "Jerusalem." (Jeremiah 29:4-7)
2. **Uncompromising Faith** (5-18)
 - a. He did not shy away from conflict or try to privatize his faith. Daniel prayed openly.
 - b. Expect the world to hate you when you live out your faith in Christ humbly, but firmly.
 - c. The world understands religion, but it does not understand the Gospel. Live it. Hold to it.
3. **The Power of God** (19-28)
 - a. God miraculously rescued Daniel by shutting the Lion's mouth and sparing Daniel's life.
 - b. God miraculously rescues sinners by not sparing his own Son, but instead raising him from the dead.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: What does it mean to be "in the world," but not "of the world"? What does it mean when a liberal king is on the throne?
2. Based on #1, above: How have you seen or experienced different approaches to Christianity and culture (i.e. condemning culture, copying culture, consuming culture, etc.)? Practically speaking, how can we engage culture today like Daniel did—neither separating nor assimilating?
3. Based on #1, above: In what way are we the "church in exile"? How might the Bible's encouragement to exiles apply to us (i.e. Jeremiah 29:4-7; Philippians 3:20)?
4. Based on #2, above: What kinds of things in our culture test our faith today? In what areas might we be tempted to "compromise"?
5. Based on #3, above: Why is belief in miracles so often viewed as untenable in our culture? How would you speak to this issue if you were challenged on it by a skeptical friend?
6. Based on #3, above: In what ways is Jesus the true and ultimate Daniel? How has his work in facing the roaring lions of God's wrath (Psalm 22) accomplished salvation for you? What effect has this had on you personally, and how can you improve upon living life in light of what He's done for you?