UNSHAKEABLE
AGAINST ALL ODDS
WEEK 7: LEARNING FROM THOSE WHO CAME BEFORE YOU

"Always remember what you have learned. Your education is your life, so guard it well."
-Proverbs 4:13

"I have heard that you have the spirit of the gods within you and that you are filled with insight, understanding, and wisdom." -Daniel 5:14

The measure of a person's success can usually be evaluated by their reputation. Daniel was known for his wisdom and knowledge. When you need help with something you want to call on the person who knows the most about what is puzzling you. Daniel was called on to "interpret dreams, explain the meaning of mysteries and solve difficult problems" (Daniel 5:12) and he was known as having the Spirit of God in him. We can learn from Daniel, a man of integrity who put into practice what he learned and honored God with his life.

OPENING PRAYER

Open your group with a prayer. This is only a guide – select the points you want to discuss.

"Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: 'The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry.' We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did. . . We should not test Christ, as some of them did. . . And do not grumble, as some of them did—and were killed by the destroying angel. These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us. . ."
-1 Corinthians 10:6-11

1. Have the group take a moment to reflect on a time when someone pointed out a destructive or sinful behavior or character flaw in them. If each person is comfortable, ask them to share: How was the message delivered? Were they able to receive that truth in the moment? If not, why? What change, if any, did they make in their life after learning this information?

2. Invite each group member to disclose if they are lacking any of the 4 kinds of people to learn from (mentors, models, partners and friends). Which one(s)? Then ask each person: Who are the people in your life whose advice you trust? How can their experiences help you assess your current path and alter it to keep you growing closer to God?

3. Discuss the kind of junk food that can fill a person's mind. How can the hunger for truth help them do what God has called them to do? How does understanding this help make a quiet time a greater priority?

"Daniel said, 'King Belshazzar, even though you knew all that happened to your "father" you didn't learn from his life and <u>you still refused to humble yourself</u> (before God) who rules from heaven.'"
-Proverbs 15:33 (TEV)

4. What does being humble look like? What makes humility difficult? How does practicing humility make a person more Christ-like? Share an experience from your life that could help another group member grow and learn.

DIVING DEEPER (optional)

1. If you died today and God asked you, "What did you do with my son who I sent to die for you?" What would you say? What types of things would you change in your life to know God more fully? Write down a few suggestions, pick one and practice it this week.

2. What is it that you know you need to be doing in your life that you currently aren't doing? How can you begin practicing these things (better eating habits, more exercise, spiritual disciplines, etc.) starting from today?

Prayer requests and closing prayer.