



Tri-Village Sermon Discussion Questions

Topic: *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington:
Standing for Truth in a Corrupt World*

Text: Daniel 6

Service Date: August 23, 2026

Note: The questions are only a starting point for discussion. Don't hesitate to modify, adapt, or highlight only specific ones to fit your group and/or personal study.

Getting Started

- What is a movie, book, or story that has influenced the way you think about standing up for what is right? What about it impacted you?

Sermon Discussion

- Daniel served under multiple kings and political regimes, yet his character remained consistent. What does it mean that “while his circumstances changed, his character didn’t”?
- Daniel 6:4 says his enemies could find no corruption in him. What do you think made Daniel’s integrity so noticeable to the people around him?
- The sermon noted, “Integrity does not ask, ‘What will this cost me?’ before asking, ‘What is right?’” Why is it so easy for us to reverse those questions?
- Why is it so easy for someone’s convictions to sometimes feel pressured by culture, workplace, friendships, or even family relationships?
- Daniel’s enemies used deception and manipulation to distract and trap him. What kinds of distractions can keep Christians from recognizing when their faith or character is being challenged?
- Daniel continued praying three times a day even after he learned that prayer had become illegal. Why do you think his established habits were so important when the crisis came? Do you have an established habit when it comes to your prayer life?
- What does your current prayer life reveal about your dependence on God? Are there spiritual habits you are developing now that could strengthen you when you face future pressure?
- Have you ever experienced a situation where doing the right thing came with a personal cost—such as criticism, embarrassment, lost opportunities, or damaged relationships? How did you respond?

- When someone isn't doing what they should, do you find you tend to ignore it or address it? If you address them, how do you address them in such a way that's it's not obnoxious but speaks the truth in love?
- Why is it important for Christians to distinguish between standing firmly for truth and railing against people who disagree with them?
- The sermon says, "Those sometimes caught in the battles of corruption, greed, and cultural warfare—they are not the targets—they are victims of the enemy." How should that perspective change the way we interact with people who disagree with our convictions?
- Daniel did not know whether God would deliver him from the lions. What can we learn from his willingness to remain faithful even when he could not control the outcome?
- "Character isn't developed in crisis, it's revealed in crisis." What does that statement mean to you, and where do you see it playing out in everyday life?

This Week's Action Response

Honest Assessment: What is one area of your life right now where you are tempted to compromise your convictions, and what is one specific step you can take this week to strengthen your character and remain faithful to God?