

## THE THREAD | A PEOPLE RISE. A PEOPLE FALL.

### Lesson 11: Daniel In Exile

Dear Parents,

Hello again! We just wrapped up lesson 11 out of 13 lessons of *A People Rise. A People Fall.*, studying the story of Israel seeking to establish itself as a nation. This lesson was entitled “Daniel in Exile.” When you read about the story of Daniel, it’s easy to get caught up in the miracle and miss out on the bigger message. King Darius obviously had respect for Daniel before the whole lion’s den thing went down. But as he witnessed what happened to Daniel when he was thrown in with the lions, he was given a different perspective. This went beyond Daniel being a good guy and strong leader; he now started to see the power of Daniel’s God. No doubt, God rescuing Daniel from the lions was an amazing miracle. But eventually, he, like everyone else, died. So, while the experience in the lion’s den was awesome, it was small potatoes compared with the eternal deliverance that is being talked about in Colossians. One was temporary; one is completely perfect and eternal.

**Lesson Overview:** You’ve more than likely heard the story of Daniel and the lion’s den a number of times. It’s an amazing story of God miraculously saving Daniel from the mouths of some pretty scary lions. While it’s awesome that God chose to save Daniel from the lions, the truth is that He doesn’t choose to save everyone from all the scary situations that are out there. So, we have to consider what this story is pointing us toward. As we dig into the truths of this story and look forward to the New Testament, our lesson is going to go beyond God’s incredible ability to do things like shut the mouths of lions and look to His ability to save us from the most important enemy we’ll face.

**What We Want Your Teenager To Learn:** Understand what the Exile was, how God provided for Daniel even in the midst of it, and how perfect/lasting deliverance comes through Christ’s death on the Cross.

**What We Want Your Teenager To Do With What They’ve Learned:** Consider what it means to live in the “Kingdom of the Son” as those who have been brought from darkness to light.

**Scripture Passages We Studied:** Daniel 1; Daniel 6; Colossians 1:11-14

*Please Take A Few Minutes This Week To Read These Passages.*

### NEXT STEPS...

During the next week, as you engage in conversations with your teenager, remember that one way that will help them to understand and apply what they have learned is to explain it to someone else. Use the following questions to guide your conversation:

- What did you think about some of the situations Daniel found himself in? How would you have reacted to them? What made Daniel react the way he did?
- How does Daniel’s great faithfulness point to the even greater faithfulness of the Lord? Why is it important for us to not just focus on Daniel but focus on the God that Daniel served?
- How can we live more and more like people that have experienced lasting and ultimate rescue? How does that truth impact our family?

Thank you for all you do. As a parent, you are the primary spiritual influence in the life of your teenager, and they desperately need you. I’m praying for you! If you have any questions or if I can help with anything, please don’t hesitate to let me know.