WELCOME

Oct 25, 2026

RIVERSIDE
CHURCH

Your *story* matters.

BIG LAKE
BUFFALO
SAUK RAPIDS

Message Notes

SG
Your *group* matters.

DISCUSSION GUIDE

- Icebreaker -

Share the time when you practiced the greatest amount of discipline in your life and what it was that brought that level discipline out of you (what was the vision?)

1. Pastor Kyle asked, "...are there any inconsistencies with what you say you believe about God and how you're living those beliefs out? Is there a gap? ...if there is, how wide is it?"
2. Pastor Kyle told us that he is personally encouraged to realize that "Daniel was a just dude who loved God and lived without a gap" between what he said he believed about God and how he lived. Do you also find that encouraging? Why or why not?
3. Identify some of the ways that Daniel could have avoided the Lion's Den (i.e. closed his windows while he prayed). What justification would you most likely follow under this threat (change, avoid, hide, etc.) and what would the problem be in following that reasoning?
4. Pastor Kyle said, "Daniel's fight wasn't in the lion's den. It was in his bedroom." What did he mean and how does it relate to your life? What can you do to prepare for a "lion's den"?
5. "Jesus...died for us while we were uncommitted, unfaithful, immoral, broken, greedy, slimy, perv-y, self-centered, self-righteous, self-absorbed, egotistical, narcissistic, high maintenance, wayward, backward, doubt-filled, back-sliding, addicted, lying, manipulative and scared...He didn't risk His life. He gave up a His life." Remember your story of when you first believed that Jesus personally did that for you and share it with your group.

Questions from *Thriving in Babylon*, chapters 18-20

1. On page 180, Osborne observed, "If you haven't noticed, extrabiblical and legalistic rules are always based on the Bible. They're just not found in the Bible." What is the difference between these two statements and why is it important?
2. In chapter 19, Osborne writes about compromising and when it is and isn't OK to do. Reflect on the story of Daniel. Where and when did he compromise as a Jew in captivity in Babylon? Where does it seem that Daniel drew the line on compromise?
3. In the last chapter, Osborne stated something similar to the message bumper, when it said, "God didn't ask him to win Babylon. He asked him to be faithful in it." Does anything surprise you about what constitutes faithfulness to God for Daniel, especially with regard to the evil king, Nebuchadnezzar and what does that mean for you and your relationships with sinful people around you?



"Committed"

Pastor Kyle Asmus | Oct 25, 2026

How _____ are you to God? If you're a follower of Jesus, if you've said 'YES!' to Him... how far are you willing to go to remain _____ to His ways and to His mission?

HOW DO WE EXIST WHEN WHERE WE ARE IS NOT OUR PLACE AND NOT OUR PEOPLE?

Will we _____ or will we Stand Tall?

Daniel 6:1-5

Daniel had taken his walk with God so seriously for so many decades that there was no gap between _____ he said he believed and _____ he lived.

If you're a follower of Jesus...if people looked close enough at your life, would they find a _____? And if there is, how wide is it?

Daniel 6:6-10

Daniel's fight wasn't in the _____. It was in his bedroom.

Commitment is not accurately measured in big things. A far more accurate test of commitment is what we do _____, in our homes.

Daniel's _____ had been trained after decades of walking with God in all these small, unimpressive ways.*

No one becomes *Daniel in the lions' den* without _____ being *Daniel who prays in his bedroom.*

Daniel 6:16-23

Daniel's commitment to God was so compelling to Darius, it changed how he (Darius) _____ God.

What _____ is asking us through Daniel 6 is this, 'When everything is on the line, including your life, will you shrink back or will you stand tall?'

But the point to Daniel is not conviction or heaviness. It's encouragement and _____.

God is far more committed to _____ than you are to _____.

2 Timothy 2:13, ESV; **Deuteronomy 7:7-8, NLT**
But God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (**Romans 5:8, ESV**)

Jesus died _____ we were sinners. He died for us _____ we were uncommitted...

If you walk with Jesus long enough, there's a day in your future when your commitment to Jesus will be _____.

Don't _____ on your commitment to Him... _____ in His commitment to you.

For all of us who are followers of Jesus, to rejoice is to _____.

Remind _____ who God is, what God is like, and what God has done.

"For [God] is the living God, and [God] will endure forever. [God's] kingdom will never be destroyed, and [God's] rule will never end. [God] rescues and saves his people; [God] performs miraculous signs and wonders in the heavens and on earth. [God] has rescued Daniel from the power of the lions." (**Daniel 6:26b-27, NLT**)

***How committed are you...?** Engage the following list by scanning the QR.*

***To prayer?** In this day and age there is nothing easier than setting a reminder on your phone to stop what you are doing and pray for 5 minutes sometime during your day.*

***To reading God's Word?** The YouVersion Bible app will even read the Bible to you! We have printed Bible reading plans at our NextStep areas at every campus you can grab and take home with you today, or go online for multiple options.*

***To being part of a Small Group?** Navigate the ups and downs of life with a group of others - just like you.*

To Serving?
We all have something to offer by serving others.

***To Giving?** Every time you give to Riverside Church, you partner with the church's mission of reaching people with the transforming love of Jesus.*

Small Group Discussion & Personal Guides on the back

Tell us about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey!
App: Message Notes/Connect Card ***Or:*** MY**RC.**LINK**/CONNECT**



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What God is asking us through Daniel 6 is this, 'When everything is on the line, including your life, will you shrink back or will you stand tall?'

But the point to Daniel is not conviction or heaviness. It's encouragement and hope.

God is far more committed to you than you are to Him.

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But God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (**Romans 5:8, ESV**)

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If you walk with Jesus long enough, there's a day in your future when your commitment to Jesus will be challenged.

Don't focus on your commitment to Him... rejoice in His commitment to you.

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"For [God] is the living God, and [God] will endure forever. [God's] kingdom will never be destroyed, and [God's] rule will never end. [God] rescues and saves his people; [God] performs miraculous signs and wonders in the heavens and on earth. [God] has rescued Daniel from the power of the lions." (**Daniel 6:26b-27, NLT**)

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