

PRE-DECIDE

Group Guide:
Week 2



HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

There are four components to a healthy group: Word, prayer, relationships, and reaching out. In this guide, you will study Daniel 6:1-5 using inductive Bible study, which has three components: observation, interpretation, and application. As the group leader, feel free to use whatever parts of this guide most help you do this!

CONNECT BREAK THE ICE AND GET PEOPLE TALKING

- What are some of the most impactful small decisions you've made in your life? Why were they so important?
- Discipleship check-in:
 - Have you prayed and read your Bible consistently in the past week?
 - Who is someone you're praying to share Jesus with this week?

INTRODUCTION

This series is focusing on the decisions we need to make beforehand – the *pre*-decisions – that lead to fruitful, faithful, and successful lives as disciples of Jesus. Last week, we learned that we must pre-decide to resist temptation. This

week we learned in the sermon that we must pre-decide to be consistent. The story we will read shows us the life of a man who was consistent in his devotion to God, and how that impacted his life as a follower of God.

OBSERVATIONS & INTERPRETATION

BID IDEA: We must pre-decide to be consistently faithful.

READ: Daniel 6:1-5

DISCUSS:

- You might think that Daniel was a young man when this story takes place, but he was actually an older man. Daniel served under four different kings: King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, his son King Belshazzar, King Darius, and lastly King Cyrus. That is a remarkable career. In your reading of this text, what do you see that might have caused him to be trusted by so many rulers?
 - What does Daniel 5:3 say made Daniel different? What does this mean in context? What would it mean for you to display such a spirit?
 - What did the other satraps think of Daniel's excellent, consistent spirit? What might that tell you about how you should expect others to react to your faithful, consistent godliness? Does Daniel's consistency make him popular?
 - In verses 4-5, how do the satraps decide to go after Daniel? What does this tell you about his relationship with God?
 - Read Proverbs 24:16. What does this say about consistency? How is Daniel like Christ?
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APPLICATION *WHAT DO WE DO NEXT?*

DISCUSS:

- Jesus was always faithful and was faithful for the sake of failures. He has grace to forgive us when we fall down, but power and example to share with us that we might be faithfully consistent. In what ways can today's lesson move you toward consistency? Where do you need the mercy of Jesus in your struggle for consistency?
- We must learn to fall in love with the process of discipleship, not just the product. How do you feel about the process?
- What decisions can you make today about your process that will yield consistent faithfulness? (Bible reading, church attendance, diet, budget, prayer, etc.)?
- Fill in the blanks in this sentence for yourself. I want to be fruitful in my _____ [noun], therefore I need to consistently _____ [verb].

PRAYER

Spend time giving thanks to Jesus for his high priestly act of bringing us to God.

Spend time asking for boldness to hold fast our confession and bring others to Christ.

Pray over those on your faith for five card by name.