



Discussion Guide

“Diamonds from Dust” – Week 7

Opening Doors...

1. Daniel served under several different kings during his life, each with his own unique personality. What has been your experience with different bosses? How have you handled different leadership styles?
2. Before deepening your level of relationship with another person, what are some character traits you look for? Why are these most important to you?

Digging In...

1. Daniel’s enemies plotted evil against him, not because he was a bad leader or because he was malicious toward them, but because they were envious of his favor with King Darius. Read Daniel 6:4-5. Sometimes life isn’t fair! We may play by the rules and live to please God, but that doesn’t guarantee life free from injustices. What is your initial reaction to witnessing injustice?
 - Read 1 Peter 2:19-25.
 - Both verses 19 and 20 call for us to endure unjust suffering. How do you honor the distinct calls to endure suffering and to confront injustice?
 - Verse 21 says Christ also suffered unjustly and left us an example to follow. What do you see in His life (v. 23) that yields insight as to how we should handle injustices? What do you find most challenging in this passage?
2. In miraculous fashion, God sent an angel to shut the mouths of the lions and Daniel survives the night with no harm. Did he sleep beside them? We don’t know, but he did trust in his God for deliverance! Read Daniel 6:19-23.
 - What do you notice about King Darius’ question as he approached the den? Do you think an unbelieving world still longs to see faithful believers trusting a faithful God? Why?
 - Read 2 Timothy 4:14-18. Paul faced a different kind of lion (Alexander the coppersmith) but God’s faithfulness was just as real. What comparisons do you see between Daniel’s and Paul’s experiences? How does God use our confrontation with lions to extend His message in the world?

Taking It Home...

1. Is there a specific place God is calling you to take a stand of faithfulness? Remember fear is a feeling that grows when you give into it and lessens when you move against it. Pray for courage today as you resolve to stand!