



Winter Small Groups

Monday 7:00 p.m.

Hosts: Scott & Jan Carpenter 587 Scott Drive, Coldwater Contact: Melissa Houtz (517) 617-5797

Wednesday 6:00 p.m. Tijuana Missions

Hosts: Solano and Jennie deAraujo 974 Dewsenberry Road, Bronson Contact: Frank Cabrera (517) 369-9783

Thursday 6:30 p.m.

Hosts: Jim and Anna Mae Wickey 389 Bawden Road, Bronson Contact: Pastor Jim (517) 756-8001

Thursday 6:30 p.m.

Hosts: Bill and Linda Penn 247 West Nettleman Road, Bronson Contact: Brandon Carpenter 989-277-5988 (kid-friendly)





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876 Block Rd Bronson MI. 49028 (517) 369-1588 876 Block Rd Bronson MI. 49028 (517) 369-1588



Small Group Discussion Guide

week of 03/06/17

Open your group with a time of sharing and prayer. Ask God to encourage your hearts as you study his word together.

Today, we turn from the historical books of the Kings to the prophetic book of Daniel. This book takes place chronologically where the Kings leave off -- at the time of the Babylonian exile, some 580 years before Christ.

. Read <u>Daniel 1:1-7.</u> What can we learn about Daniel and his friends from these verses? During a bad time, Daniel gets a good break. How might this relate to *Romans 8:28?*

Now read <u>Daniel 1:8-16</u>. Daniel is being tested. In what ways does he remain true to his faith, even in a foreign land? How does God bless him? According to <u>Daniel 1:17</u>, how had God gifted these young men? How did they compare with the Kings' wise men according to <u>Daniel 1:20</u>? In what ways could this be true for faithful believers in our day and age?

- I. Now read <u>Daniel 3:1-12</u>. This time, Daniel's three friends are put to the test. Having lived through the exile, they saw firsthand the dangers of idolatry. How might that have prepped them to face this test? Why might they chose death over compromising their convictions? If we lose our convictions (deep seated beliefs about God), what else do we have?
- III. Read *Daniel 3:13-23*. Nebuchadnezzar's authority as king has been challenged. Furious, he sentences Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego to death. What impresses you about their courage? Do you think they knew what God was going to do? Read on in *Daniel 3:24-27*. Who might the fourth person in the fire have been? Now notice the impact this incident had on a pagan king and his leaders in *Daniel 3:28-30*. How does this align with Nebuchadnezzar's experience in *Daniel 4*? Read his conclusion there in verses 34-37.

Close your time by praying for deeper convictions and greater courage in the face of spiritual adversity. God's reputation is at stake in us!



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