

Bethel Group

Sundays 4:30 p.m. Contact: David Minard 517.756.8000

Tijuana Fellowship Group

Wednesdays 6:00 p.m. Contact: Paul Alger 517.677.0444

Bronson Group

Thursdays 3:00 p.m. Contact: Jim Wickey 517.369.6229

Coldwater Group

Mondays 7:00 p.m. Contact: Scott Carpenter 517.617.5438

East Gilead Group

Thursdays 6:30 p.m. Contact: Greg Maertin 419.345.4022

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the SG KINGDOM PROJECT

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Small Group Discussion Guide

Open your group with a time of sharing and prayer. Ask God to speak to you through his word, his Spirit and one another.

- I. This past Sunday, Pastor Jim suggested that the church in America is in crisis because of societal degeneration and spiritual decline. What are some of the evidences that our society is degenerating? How have Christians tended to respond to lower standards of right and wrong and loosening morals? Do you believe the church in America is in decline? Why or why not?
- II. Turn to the book of Daniel. As a group, review what you know about Daniel'l life. Now read <u>Daniel 6:1-3</u>. What "exceptional qualities" might have distinguished Daniel in the Persian Empire? (Note <u>Daniel 1:17, 20, Daniel 6:6-15</u>) Should Christians be exceptional?
- III. Now read <u>Daniel 6:6-15.</u> "May Day! May Day!" Daniel's life is suddenly in danger. How does he respond? Why did he resist compliance with the new law at the risk of his life? Any modern examples of this come to mind? What do you think Daniel believed about God that gave him courage and hope (note <u>Romans 15:4</u>)? How does faith in God encourage you when you are tempted to despair? Any personal examples?
- IV. Read <u>Daniel 6:16-23</u>. Darius observed something in Daniel. Note the repeated phrases in verses 16 and 20. Why do you suppose this impressed the King? What might this look like for Christians today? God came through big on Daniel's behalf! What impact did his testimony have on Darius in verses 26-27? What impact could biblical convictions and courage have on non-Christians in our generation?

Close your group in prayer. Ask God to help you develop deep biblical convictions that will fortify your life in the face of danger and difficulty.



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