

Living in Isolation

Next Steps

Daniel 6

OPENING PRAYER:

Holy and illuminating God, as your Word is opened before us, pierce our preoccupations, our penchant for unexamined and unconscious living, and our stubborn resistance that we may be attentive to your presence. For the sake of Christ we pray. Amen.

BREAKING THE ICE:

- What did you agree/disagree with the sermon this week?
- How did you do through the weeks of Shelter in Place? What was your biggest struggle? What was the easiest part?

WRESTLING WITH THE WORD:

Read Daniel 6:1-24

- There's so much going on in the early verses of this amazing story? What do you hear? What's your biggest question? How do you respond to 'office politics?'
- What is your take on the response of the king to his advisors/satraps? Is there a time you've felt such peer pressure?
- The decree asked that no one would pray except to the King. Ask yourself how you honestly would have responded. It took tremendous faith for Daniel. What would help you to build that type of faith?
- Where is the hardest area of your life to stand up for your faith? What lessons from Daniel will help you? Who and what could help you?

NEXT STEPS:

- When you reflect on your weeks of isolation in "Shelter in Place", what would you like to continue in your life? What can help you make that happen?
- Name one area of your life that is the largest struggle for you to stand up for your faith. Spend time each day to pray over this subject.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:

Lord, teach me to listen. The times are noisy and my ears are weary with the thousand raucous sounds which continuously assault them. Give me the spirit of the boy Samuel when he said to you, "Speak, for thy servant hears." Let me hear you speaking in my heart. Let me get used to the sound of your voice, that its tones may be familiar when the sounds of the earth die away and the only sound will be the music of your speaking voice. Amen. (A.W. Tozer, The Pursuit of God)