

# **FEARLESS FOLLOWER**

## **[Living for a cause bigger than yourself]**

Fearless people are those ready to face and endure danger, hardship or pain, they are brave and courageous. It is easy to look at Daniel's life and see someone who was fearless as he stood up to a powerful king and survived a night in the lion's den. But why? What made him fearless? How can we be a fearless follower of Jesus in the face of danger? This series will help unpack how living as a fearless follower of Jesus is less about us and more about our cause of living for God. Daniel had a passion for God that allowed him to live fearless in the face of tremendous pressure.

### **Weekend Breakout Details**

#### **Part 1 (January 14): Early Determination**

**Passage:** Daniel 1 (focus 1:8)

**Tension:** Am I someone who goes with the flow or do I commit from the start to follow God?

**Bottom Line:** Brave living starts early and intentionally.

**Focus:** We often are on a track in life and halfway through think, "Oh, maybe I should try and live for Jesus now." It is much easier and better to determine from the start to live for Jesus. Daniel was a teenager (15-17) when he resolved to not defile his body, when he committed to living God's values. How about us? When we join the team, club, or activity are we resolved to live for God from the start or is it an afterthought?

#### **Part 2 (January 21): Spiritual Friendships**

**Passage:** Daniel 2 (focus 2:49)

**Tension:** Our friendships often determine the future success or failure of our life, but we rarely pause to consider their influence before simply becoming "best friends".

**Bottom Line:** Fearless followers stick together. Spiritual friendships are essential. Do my closet friendships push for fearless living for Jesus? How am I helping my friends live for Jesus through both action and words?

**Focus:** Daniel was in the king's good graces and being showered with fame and fortune and what he asked of the king was not a Maserati or a lifetime supply of whatever. Rather, his request was to have his other friends who followed Jesus close by because he knew it was important to have people around who could help keep him on the right path and encourage him to continue as a fearless follower of God.

#### **Part 3 (January 28): Consistent Prayer**

**Passage:** Daniel 6 (focus 6:10-11)

**Tension:** When our faith is tested with harm it can often seem justifiable to acquiesce/yield to the pressure instead of standing fearless in full confidence of our God.

**Bottom Line:** Fearless living doesn't compromise core values OR Fearless living is sustained through consistent communication with God.

**Focus:** A consistent prayer life keeps us anchored to God and His ways. Being resolved to live faithfully and being encouraged by friends to do so lays a foundation, but ultimately it is our relationship with God through prayer that gives us strength to live fearless. Daniel had a top position in one of the biggest empires of his day. Then, even when facing death in a den of lions he remained faithful to God. Daniel's prayer life was his relational lifeline to God.