

Conversation Starters

- What is the current culture of your work or home environment?
- Does faith fit into that culture at all?

Discuss

There are seasons of life that are not our perfect ideal. Whether it be a job, stage of life, lifestyle or something else, these seasons can be dark. We will all face setbacks or times of life where we look forward to something else or better than our current circumstances. Daniel had experienced great success and then went through years of being forgotten.

- Have you ever been in a season that you did not want to be in?
- What does or did that look like?

Despite what must have been a tough time for Daniel, he remained faithful. By those who had not forgotten him, Daniel was still known as a man who loved and respected God. How we handle ourselves during tough times are often more important than actually getting out of that time.

“This man Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar, has exceptional ability and is filled with divine knowledge and understanding. He can interpret dreams, explain riddles, and solve difficult problems. Call for Daniel, and he will tell you what the writing means.” ([Daniel 5:12 NLT](#))

- How would you describe yourself in a season like this?
- Are there things you may be missing in your current season because of trying to move past it?
- What does it look like to be faithful during a tough season?

In a challenging situation, it can be tempting to take an opportunity to chase success at the cost of your faith. However, if you really want your faith to grow, you will never shy away from what culture would say against your faith. Your resolve should be to bring truth to a challenging situation and to power in the context of love when you have the opportunity. That is what the world needs. Daniel did and God honored him for that. God will honor you too.

- Have you ever felt tempted to cut corners in your faith for the sake of success?
- What does it look like to bring truth within your current work or home environment?
- What would help you overcome barriers to bringing truth?

Next Steps

Pursuing authentic faith does not mean that things will always go as you want. There will be times that are challenging. You can still be faithful during that time. You can still use every opportunity you have during that time to bring truth and let the people around you feel the weight of who you are in Christ. That is being faithful, and usually when your faith will shine the brightest. Spend some time this week praying about how you can bring truth in your current circumstances.

Check out these classes in the Meck Institute:

[Training Camp](#)

Saturday, October 12, 2019, 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

[Learning to Pray](#)

Every Monday, from 12/02/2019 to 12/09/2019, 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Further Reflection

Read [Daniel 5 NLT](#).

Pray

God, thank you for the example of Daniel. Thank you for being faithful to him. Forgive us when we let the circumstance of our life overshadow what you may be trying to teach us or how you may be trying to use us. Help us to trust you in the circumstances we are in and have strength and courage to bring truth and be faithful no matter what.