



THRIVING IN BABYLON

Trusting God Through it All

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Outline

Read **Daniel 6:1-28** and remind everyone of the outline:

I. God wants us to engage with the culture around us

- A. Engaging the Culture Should Affect What You Do and Where You Choose to Do It
- B. Engaging the Culture Should Include a Concern about Who You Are and How You Do What You Do

II. God Wants Us to Be Willing to Suffer and Ready to Be Misunderstood by the Culture Around Us

- A. Form a Habit of Prayerful and Thankful Communion with God in Your Life
- B. Build a Personal History of God's Faithfulness in Your Life by Serving Him Year after Year
- C. Keep Putting Your Trust in God Regardless of How Unjust Your Circumstances Might Be

III. You'll Never Have the Courage to Suffer Well Until You Know and Love the One Who Suffered Most for You

Sermon Discussion:

I. Conversation Starter Questions

- A. If you got trapped in a cage at the zoo, which would your biggest nightmare?
- B. What did Brad mean by "secular and sacred"? Does that affect how you think?
- C. Have different people read **Luke 1:6; Acts 24:16; I Cor. 10:32; 2 Cor. 6:3; Phil. 2:15; I Thess. 2:10** and then express a summary of each passage. Which one is a challenging reminder?
- D. Was Daniel about 80 years old in your visual image of him in the lion's den? Why do we tend to think that the faithful shouldn't have to suffer?

II. Application Question

- A. What does "engaging the culture" look like for you?
- B. What does your regular time with the Lord look like? What do you look forward to?
- C. What's an event in your life that is a reminder of God's faithfulness to you personally?
- D. Besides your sin, what can you have a tendency to think is your biggest problem?

III. Gospel Connection – While Daniel is a great example, Jesus is our Savior who makes a life like Daniel's possible. Because of Christ's work, we can trust in all things.

IV. Prayer Focus Ideas

- A. How can you be a better influence to the culture around you?
- B. Is there a circumstance in your life that you're struggling to see God's goodness? How can you trust Him more?
- C. Is there an unjust situation in your life or someone you know that needs a reminder of God's sovereign trustworthiness?