

COMMUNITY GROUPS

living out the gospel with
one another in our homes

Date: 3/12/23

Sermon: Comparison to Christ

Text: Daniel 6

Speaker: Will Massaro

Questions: John Brewer

Sermon Summary and Text Overview

In Daniel Chapter 6, the other officials conspired against Daniel to have him killed. The only fault they could find in Daniel was that he faithfully prayed to God three times a day. They convinced king Darius to make this act illegal and then coerced the king to enforce this rule against Daniel. Daniel was cast into a den of lions, but instead of being consumed, God protected him. Darius declared that our God “is the living God.”

Questions

1. We consistently hear from the pulpit at FRBC that when studying any Bible story, we should ask how it points us to Christ as the Messiah. Ted’s recurring preaching guidance is “just give ‘em Jesus.” Why do we as a church choose to teach this way? How does this focus shape our head knowledge of scripture? How does this focus shape our understanding of ourselves and our heart posture?
2. Will gave us 19 parallels between Daniel in the story of the lions’ den and Jesus. Which ones stood out to you most and why? Read the related passages. How does this point you to Christ? Spend some time going through a number of these points with your group.
3. Will discussed how Daniel’s enemies were destroyed and that there is similar judgment and destruction for the enemies of God. Who are the enemies of God? Who are the friends of God? What did they do to become friends of God? What about the people in the middle?

Reflection: Will discussed that Daniel likely knew Psalm 22 which Jesus recalled on the cross. They both knew that the Father was sovereign in those situations despite the violence of their circumstances. How much scripture do we know by heart? How much do we trust God’s word in our hearts? Do we trust that God’s word is true and that he is faithful even in the face of our own earthly deaths? Let’s ask God to draw us into the study of his word and to help us lay up his

word in our hearts and souls so that we can boldly proclaim Christ knowing that there is eternal life in his name.

<u>Comparison</u>	<u>Daniel 6</u>	<u>Jesus</u>
Exile/Soujourner	Verse 1	Matthew 8:20
Participant in Society	Verses 1-3	Mark 6:56
Full of the Spirit	Verse 3	Luke 4:1
Conspirators	Verse 4	Matthew 12:14
The Attempt to Find Fault	Verse 4	Mark 3:2
Blameless	Verse 4, 22	John 19:6
Found Fault in Connection with God	Verse 5	Luke 22:70
Man of Prayer	Verse 10	Matthew 6:9-13
Man of the Psalms	Psalms 22:21	Matthew 27:46
Only Worshipped God	Verse 7	Matthew 4:9-10
The Backroom Trial	Verse 4	Matthew 26:3-4
A Weak King	Verse 14	John 19:6
The Stone and the Seal	Verse 17	Matthew 27:66
The Night	Verse 22	Hebrews 2:14
The Break of Day	Verse 19	Mark 16:2
The Proclamation	Verses 26-27	Mark 15:17
The Destruction of the Enemy	Verse 24	Hebrews 2:14
The Worship of the Nations	Verse 25	Matthew 28:18-20
The Prospering of the Faithful	Verse 28	Philippians 2:8-10

