

Episode #3 - Change Guided by Purpose

1. Read together Daniel 4:1, 5:1, and 6:1. What does that tell you about the stability of the Babylonian Empire during the time of Daniel?
2. In Daniel 4, what was Nebuchadnezzar's dream and Daniel's interpretation? How does it come to pass?
3. In Daniel 5, what was Belshazzar's dream and Daniel's interpretation? How does it come to pass?
4. Considering the three kings mentioned in Daniel, and the four coups that happened, not recorded in scripture, in a period of ten years, how do you think Daniel was able to be trusted by so many rulers? Does his status as a non-Babylonian prove to be an asset or a liability?
6. Daniel 6 reveals a plot from the "Babylonian Hairball" to take Daniel down, by taking advantage of his faithfulness to God. Read together Daniel 6:17-28. How odd is it that the King is at the door of the execution chamber checking on the status of the condemned? What does this reveal about his trust / appreciation for Daniel? How does this event turn the tables on Daniel's accusers?
7. Whom do you know who had/has integrity like Daniel? What gave them integrity?
8. In "Start with Why" by Simon Sinek, Sinek says why you exist should be what drives things first, then what you do, then how you do it. Great people and organizations do not get those out of order. What is Daniel's "why" - why does he exist? "How," for Daniel, was helping the kings of Babylon, but how does he respond when these conflict with his "why." What kind of flexibility did Daniel have to serve so many kings?
9. What people can you think of who let their "what and how" supersede their "why?" Have you ever found yourself there? Whom do you know who is driven by a deep sense of purpose and lives life joyfully from that center?