

Daniel Dilemma
Love Well
September 23, 2018

Galatians 5:6 The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

John 13:34-35 “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you **love one another.**”

- ✓ People are ready for God, but they want hope, not a debate.

John 4:3-40 Soon a Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Please give me a drink.” ...She said to Jesus, “You are a Jew, and I am a Samaritan woman...But those who drink the water I give will never be thirsty again...Jesus said, “You’re right! You don’t have a husband—for you have had five husbands, and you aren’t even married to the man you’re living with now...But the time is coming—indeed it’s here now—when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth...Then Jesus told her, “I AM the Messiah!...Then Jesus explained: “My nourishment comes from doing the will of God, who sent me, and from finishing his work...But I say, wake up and look around. The fields are already ripe for harvest... ‘One plants and another harvests.’ ...So he stayed for two days, long enough for many more to hear his message and believe...Now we know that he is indeed the Savior of the world.”

6 Observations from Jesus’ conversation:

- ✓ Be willing to initiate a conversation.

2 Corinthians 5:20 NLT So we are Christ’s ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us.

- ✓ Be willing to be vulnerable.
- ✓ Be willing to break down barriers by giving observations not condemnation.
- ✓ Be willing to listen non-judgmentally in order to understand deeply.
- ✓ Be willing to offer a clear compelling invitation.
- ✓ Always remember the road to faith is a process.

1 Corinthians 3:6 LB My work was to plant the seed in your hearts, and Apollos’ work was to water it, but it was God, not we, who made the garden grow in your hearts.

Daniel 6:1-5 It pleased Darius to appoint 120 satraps to rule throughout the kingdom, with three administrators over them, one of whom was Daniel. The satraps were made accountable to them so that the king might not suffer loss. Now Daniel so **distinguished himself** among the administrators and the satraps by his **exceptional qualities** that the king planned to set him over the **whole kingdom**. At this, the administrators and the satraps tried to find grounds for charges against Daniel in his conduct of government affairs, but they were unable to do so. They could find no corruption in him, because he was trustworthy and neither corrupt nor negligent. Finally these men said, “We will never find any basis for charges against this man Daniel...”

3 Things we can do to Love Well:

1. Connect before we correct.

1 Corinthians 9:19 Though I am free and belong to no man, I make myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible.

Colossians 4:5-6 Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

2. Set an example for them.

Matthew 5:13-16 “You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men. You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

3. Share Christ with them.

1 Peter 3:15-16 But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to **give the reason for the hope that you have**. But do this with **gentleness and respect**, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

Walk Away: How I act is more important than what I say.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Student Takeover Service – Sunday, September 30th both services!
- First Wednesday – Wednesday, October 3rd @ 7pm
- Sparkle Women’s Event – Friday, October 19th @ 6:30pm
- **NEW** Saturday Night Service! Begins November 3rd @ 5pm