



Bible
BOOK CLUB

March 2021 - Daniel

OPENING PRAYER

Gracious God,

We are infinitely grateful for your guiding hand that gently shepherds us throughout the challenges of our time. In the midst of a pandemic that has made us exiles in our own land and stripped away our ability to be in charge of our lives, we are humbly led like Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, to realize that it is you who hold us, preserve us, sustain us, and lead us. Grant us faith as we journey in these troubling times, and hope as we look ahead and see your promises. Amen.

BOOK CLUB QUESTIONS

The book of Daniel offers us a glimpse into life under tight restrictions at least.

- In what ways does life under the current COVID-19 pandemic resemble (or differ from) what we read about in the book of Daniel?
- Who were the restrictions for and why?
- Who were exempt from those restrictions and why?
- How is power used to enforce the restrictions?

In the midst of perils and tribulations, God is present with the marginalized, the poor, the vulnerable, and the weak.

- What evidence of that do we have in the book of Daniel?
- How is God's hand leading us through and out of the pandemic? How can that relate to God's journey with us in these pandemic times?

Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego remind us of refugees, immigrants, and minority groups. They are expected to forsake who they are and become who they are not.

- In what ways does the integration of various cultural and racial groups within the church over the years reveal a pattern of assimilation and rejection of who they are?
- Why is it that we feel threatened by that which is different?

Continued...

BOOK CLUB QUESTIONS

- How can you reach out to people from vulnerable, minority and marginalized communities in the church?

A reversal is happening in our world where the church is reaching a minority status and finds herself at the mercy of the Nebuchadnezzars of the world.

- What lessons can the church draw from the book of Daniel?
- How does the book inspire us to be 21st century people of faith who persevere and bring hope in an increasingly challenging environment?

CLOSING PRAYER

Most loving God,

We are very vulnerable right now and realize how much we depend on you. Guide us out of these challenging times, inspire and enable us to respond to the needs of others, especially the vulnerable, the weak, the marginalized, and the poor. In the name of the father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.