

Small Group Questions

Part 2: Dealing with Pressure

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Read

Daniel 2:5–49; Colossians 4:5–6; and Hebrews 12:26–28

Reflect

King Nebuchadnezzar has a dream that greatly disturbs him, yet he can't remember it. So he orders his astrologers to explain his dream. If they can't, then they are to be torn limb from limb and their homes destroyed. Because of Daniel's promotion to the court, he was slated to suffer the same fate. Through faith and trust in God, Daniel is able to explain the king's dream, deliver terrible news, and yet earn the king's respect and gratitude for it.

Pastor Josh Surratt gives us three ways that a godly leader responds to pressure:

1. Keep my cool when the pressure gets hot.
 - a. Have you ever received bad news and not reacted the way you had hoped?
 - b. What can we learn from how Daniel spoke to the commander of the king's guard when he first learned of the ultimatum about the king's dream?
 - i. Later, how does Daniel manage to deliver such bad news to the king and earn his appreciation?
 - c. Does someone in particular come to mind when you think of a godly, tactful, and wise person?
 - i. What impact has this person had on you?
2. Trust God with the source of your pressure.
 - a. How do you think Daniel was able to put such quick trust in God at a high-pressure time?
 - b. Has God ever given you the answer to something that you knew was beyond your own ability to discern? Explain.
 - c. Where are you facing pressures in your life?
 - i. Considering those pressures, in what ways could you better emulate Daniel?
3. Include my tribe throughout the process.
 - a. What keeps you from sharing what pressures you are going through, with others?
 - i. Are you embarrassed, ashamed, or worried that others will think your problems are not significant? Or they won't understand? Explain.
 - b. Why is it important to have a tribe?
 - c. If you have trusted someone to pray and support you in the past, how has it impacted you?
 - i. Have you ever been surprised by who prays and supports you the most?
 - d. If God has granted you favor, who will you promote and support in turn?
4. Keep my focus on what will last.
 - a. Would you say the way you handle your daily pressures reflects your beliefs and values?

Respond

What is your next step? Where is God leading you? How can your small group support you and hold you accountable in this?