

## Small Group Questions

### Part 5: Culture's Greatest Need

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#### Read

Daniel 6: 1–28; 2 Corinthians 3:18; and Revelation 4:6–7; Matthew 5:13–16; and Proverbs 28:1

#### Reflect

Daniel exhibited such exceptional qualities that the other administrators became jealous and purposely got King Darius to sign a decree that forbade the people from praying to any god or human, except the king, within the next thirty days. Since Daniel continued to pray to God, the administrators made sure the king was told. They reminded the king that such a decree could not be changed. So Daniel was thrown into the lion's den. Yet, no harm came to him. King Darius then wrote another decree declaring that every part of his kingdom must fear and hold in reverence the God of Daniel. Daniel showed incredible character and integrity even in the most high-pressure situations, and God honored and protected him for it. In what ways are you fighting to help our culture find God?

Pastor Josh Surratt discusses some of the exceptional qualities that Daniel exhibited that are also aspects of God as described in Revelation 4:

1. The ox: the face of a servant.
  - a. In what ways has Jesus acted as a servant?
  - b. If our God can act as a servant, what is preventing you from doing the same?
  - c. The ox works hard and carries others' burdens. What are you doing to try to make someone else's life easier and better?
2. The Man: the face of love.
  - a. Jesus was wholly divine and wholly human. In what ways has Jesus shown his love for us?
  - b. Right now, who needs to know that you care?
  - c. How have you let your own issues prevent you from drawing closer to God?
  - d. Who needs to know that Jesus loves them despite their issues and their past?
3. The eagle: the face of respect.
  - a. God always acts with honor and integrity. How well do you think you are exhibiting these traits?
  - b. If those closest to you at work or at home were interviewed, how do you think they would describe you? Do you have the courage (and humility) to ask them?
  - c. In your daily life, how do you show respect for others?
  - d. Do you follow through with your promises? Or do you tend to make excuses and rationalize why you could not do as you said you would?
  - e. When you volunteer for something, do you consider it a commitment at that point, or still optional to follow-through?
4. The lion: the face of boldness.
  - a. Has someone ever tried to silence your faith? Explain.
  - b. How willing are you to talk about your faith with nonbelievers?
  - c. Do your colleagues and friends know that you are a Christian?
  - d. Is there someone you feel you need to speak to about faith, but have yet to try?

Which of the four aspects do you feel you exhibit the most and the least?

#### Respond

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