





Read Daniel 6

Welcome to week seven of the coloring book all stars, where we look at the dream team of Biblical characters and stories. This week we are looking in the book of Daniel, specifically the story of Daniel and the lion's den. We learn once again that the book of Daniel is largely about issues of the heart. Daniel, like Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego finds himself in an uncomfortable situation because he refuses to deny the one true God.

This story starts off with Daniel blessing the new king. Daniel recognizes he is called to be a blessing because God has blessed him.

Do you find yourself trying to be a blessing to all people?

Who is the hardest person to show love and grace to? How come?

LOOKING FOR DIRTE

Daniel 6:4-5 "At this, the administrators and 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"

If people looked at your life, where would they find fault?

I (Jon) wonder how many people, when this question is read, will start to feel uncomfortable. The truth is, we all have dirt in our lives, but it is also important to talk about our faults. If we don't acknowledge our own issues we often become arrogant and defensive when our sin gets brought up. Talking about our sin leads us to a fuller understand of God's grace.

THE LIONS DEN:

Daniel ends up getting thrown into the Lions Den because he worships God above all else. Daniel knows the danger of continuing to worship God, but does so because he knows God is good. This story has captured the minds of artists for generations; however what the artists often depict is not actually in the story. They frequently portray Daniel in the Den, focusing on God and the lions resting quietly beside him. The author of the story keeps the perspective of Daniel hidden, all we know is that he went in at night and came out in the morning.

What do you keep hidden from other people? Why?

Do you turn to God when things get bad?

When Daniel was thrown into the lions den, he was scared, who wouldn't be, but he prayed and turned to God when things got messy.

Exodus 20:3 "You shall have no other gods before me."

What are some things you care about more than God?

Why do we pursue these things instead of God?

Do you try and convince yourself that your idols are really not that bad?

God wants us for His own, not because He needs us, but because He loves us. God knows that if we are able to submit to His authority,

we will have a more meaningful life. Aaron gave an example in the sermon that when you put things before Jesus they become meaningless, but when you place these things after Jesus, the very same things become immensely meaningful.

Do you believe that worshiping God fully and completely will result in a more fulfilled life?

Why or why not?

