# MORE TO THE STORY



July 27-August 2, 2025

A stop along the journey to study, share, and support one another while we learn the way of Jesus.

## This Week's Big Idea:

Faithfulness to God can bring us problems that we would not otherwise encounter, but God will be faithful in the midst of whatever we face.

#### **Scripture and Study:**

KEY TEXT: Daniel 6 Click here to access this week's scripture

Daniel's life was marked by consistent integrity. From his early days in Babylon, he remained faithful to God despite cultural pressures to change and worship other gods. By the time he enters the lion's den, he is an old man, but his heart and mind are still clearly fixed on Yahweh. When jealous officials couldn't find fault in his leadership, they targeted his faith. Knowing the law forbidding prayer to anyone but the king, Daniel still prayed openly to God three times a day, just as he always had.

Daniel's integrity wasn't reactive; it was a steady rhythm formed by daily faithfulness in those times of prayer. He didn't pray because life was hard and he was facing a crisis. He prayed before the trials, through them, and then again after. His faith was so strong that even the threat of lions couldn't shake it

Our world often seems to reward compromise, but Daniel challenges us to live with bold integrity. He teaches us that faithfulness isn't loud or flashy, it's consistent. It's being the same person in public and private and trusting that God is at work no matter where that leads us.

### **Discussion Questions:**

- How do you imagine you would react if it became illegal to pray or gather in worship together?
- Who are some people that have modeled integrity for you? How do you learn to respond similarly in hard circumstances?
- What are small daily decisions that have shaped long-term Jesus-centered character for you?

## Apply It:

- Set aside a daily consistent time for prayer this week. Choose a place and time and set an alarm to help you remember.
- Write down one area where you're tempted to compromise and ask God for strength.
- Encourage someone who is standing strong in their faith with a call or text about how you see integrity and faithfulness in them.