



SERIES BIG IDEA:

Live a faith that stands out in a culture shutting God out.

²⁵ Seven times will pass by for you until you acknowledge that the Most High is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and gives them to anyone he wishes. ²⁶ The command to leave the stump of the tree with its roots means that your kingdom will be restored to you when you acknowledge that Heaven rules. ²⁷ Therefore, Your Majesty, be pleased to accept my advice: Renounce your sins by doing what is right, and your wickedness by being kind to the oppressed. It may be that then your prosperity will continue.

Daniel 4:25-27 (NIV)

The evidence that we believe in the Most High God is that we _____ "Jesus is Lord of all" and we _____ from sin by pursuing what is right by Jesus Christ.

_____ **will keep me from living as if Jesus is Lord and from repenting of my sin.**

It requires _____ to submit to Jesus as Lord and turn from my sin by doing what is right by Jesus.

Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, because everything he does is right and all his ways are just. And those who walk in pride he is able to humble.

Daniel 4:37 (NIV)

- **Those who walk in _____, God will humble.**
- **Those who walk in _____, God will exalt.**

Humility is a characteristic of those who have _____ Jesus as Savior and who have _____ Him as Lord.

⁵ All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."

⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. ⁸ Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

⁹ Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings. ¹⁰ And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. ¹¹ To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 5:5-11 (NIV); See also James 4:3-10

TEACHING BIG IDEA:

A Daniel Generation walks in _____ and is committed to _____.

¹⁰ Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before...

¹³ Then they said to the king, "Daniel, who is one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you, Your Majesty, or to the decree you put in writing. He still prays three times a day."

Daniel 6:10,13 (NIV)

¹⁹ At the first light of dawn, the king got up and hurried to the lions' den. ²⁰ When he came near the den, he called to Daniel in an anguished voice, "Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to rescue you from the lions?"

²¹ Daniel answered, "May the king live forever! ²² My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in his sight. Nor have I ever done any wrong before you, Your Majesty." ²³ The king was overjoyed and gave orders to lift Daniel out of the den. And when Daniel was lifted from the den, no wound was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.

Daniel 6:19-23 (NIV)



Prayer is a _____ submission to God that acknowledges our dependence on His mercy and trust in His grace.

¹⁰ "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.' ¹³ But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.' ¹⁴ I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

Luke 18:10-14 (NIV)

Write the "Jesus Prayer" above.

MY NOTES



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TEACHING SUMMARY:

Humility and prayer go hand in hand. It takes humility to pray; and the more you pray, the more humility you will have. One leads to the other. Or, without more of one, you won't have more of the other.

God has revealed through scripture that He lifts up the humble and brings down those who exalt themselves. Daniel humbled himself before God and God lifted Daniel while humbling King Nebuchadnezzar.

When the Persians overtook Babylon, Daniel found favor with King Darius because Daniel remained humble and was devoted to God in prayer. Daniel's commitment to honor God and be faithful to God at all costs made his peers jealous and angry at Daniel. However, because of Daniel's humility and commitment to God in prayer, God lifts up Daniel.

Prayer is a humble submission to God Most High and an acknowledgment that we depend upon God's mercy and grace. That's why Jesus' parable in Luke 18 is a great starting point for prayer.

TALK-IT-OVER:

- In what ways do you see pride pushing people away from humbly submitting to God in society today?
- What areas of your life are hard for you to be humble and run first to God for guidance?
- How has prayer affected your life?
- What do you need to be praying about that you have pridefully been keeping to yourself?
- What is a next step you need to take today?
- Who do you need to tell about what you've learned?

DAILY SCRIPTURE READING:

- Day 1) Psalm 78:21-32
- Day 2) Isaiah 30:1-18
- Day 3) Isaiah 29:13-16
- Day 4) Proverbs 3:5-6
- Day 5) Romans 10:8-10
- Day 6) Jeremiah 8:5-7