

## Grace Group Discussion Guide

For the week of August 12-August 18, 2018

### Main Thought and Passages:

We will all face defining moments where testing and trial requires us to rise up in faith. Daniel and his friends faced execution because no one could interpret the king's dream. Instead of shrinking back in fear, they got down on their knees in prayer, and God showed up in power.

*"Then Daniel went to his house and made the matter known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions, <sup>18</sup>and told them to seek mercy from the God of heaven concerning this mystery, so that Daniel and his companions might not be destroyed with the rest of the wise men of Babylon. <sup>19</sup>Then the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a vision of the night. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven." (Daniel 2:17-19 ESV)*

- Daniel rallied his friends to pray with him and God gave him the interpretation of the dream.

*"...Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, to whom belong wisdom and might. <sup>21</sup>He changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings; he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding; <sup>22</sup>he reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what is in the darkness, and the light dwells with him." (Daniel 2:20-22 ESV)*

- Daniel praised God and embraced His sovereignty and control.

*"The king declared to Daniel...'Are you able to make known to me the dream that I have seen and its interpretation?' <sup>27</sup>Daniel answered the king and said, 'No wise men, enchanters, magicians, or astrologers can show to the king the mystery that the king has asked, <sup>28</sup>but there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries, and he has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will be in the latter days...' (Daniel 2:26-28 ESV)*

- Daniel didn't take personal credit but pointed to God and gave Him the credit.

*"The king answered and said to Daniel, 'Truly, your God is God of gods and Lord of kings, and a revealer of mysteries, for you have been able to reveal this mystery.' <sup>48</sup>Then the king gave Daniel high honors and many great gifts, and made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon and chief prefect over all the wise men of Babylon. <sup>49</sup>Daniel made a request of the king, and he appointed Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego over the affairs of the province of Babylon..." (Daniel 2:47-49 ESV)*

- As a result, the king promoted Daniel and recognized Daniel's god.
- When promoted, Daniel remembered how his friends supported him and he shared his promotion and blessings with them.

### Reflection:

- What stands out to you from the main thought and main passages above and why? What role do you see prayer playing in Daniel's defining moment?
- Share a defining moment in your life where God showed up. What did you learn from it?

### Application:

- How can you apply the lessons from this discussion to your current situations?

### Prayer:

- Pray for each other to face our "defining moments" with prayer and faith.
- Pray for an unreached friend or family member to look to God in the trials they're facing.