



Daniel In The Integrity Den

Daniel 6

Summary

Daniel's story reminds us that integrity is more than doing the right thing when people are watching. It means developing a whole, undivided heart that remains faithful to God even when we face temptation, pressure from others, unjust laws, or outright hostility. Through Daniel's example, we discover the hallmarks of integrity, recognize the threats that can undermine it, and learn to trust God regardless of the consequences of our faithfulness.

Part 1: The Hallmarks Of Integrity

Read Daniel 6:1–4.

1. PBC shared a story from his teen years working in Kmart where in a moment that caught him offguard, he allowed a customer to essentially bribe him. Looking back at your life, have there been times when you surprised yourself by your lack of integrity? Why do you think this happened to you?

These first few verses provide an effective definition of what integrity is. Kick around each of the 4 points.

Integrity stands up and stands out for what is good.

2. Read this quote from the sermon then discuss it.

Look at a culture's heroes and you'll learn a lot about that culture. It used to be that we made heroes out of people who accomplished great feats, or made great discoveries, or showed great courage. Now we idolize celebrities, and actors, and the builders of great business empires, and the moral quality of their lives doesn't matter at all. We even do this in the church.

Integrity is found in pursuing excellence.

3. What does it look like to pursue excellence in our work, relationships, and service to God? How is godly excellence different from perfectionism or trying to earn God's approval?

Integrity is incorruptible.

4. Psalm 86:11 asks God to unite our hearts to fear his name. What does it mean to have an undivided heart toward God? What competing desires or loyalties can pull our hearts away from him?

Integrity is being faithful and trustworthy.

5. “Integrity is what a person is in the dark,” someone once said. How can we cultivate greater consistency between who we appear to be publicly and who we are privately?

Part 2: The Threats To Integrity

Read Daniel 6:5–12 where we find 3 threats to our pursuit of integrity. Discuss them.

The threat of the crowd.

6. Daniel’s colleagues conspired against him because of his integrity. Why might other people resent someone who refuses to compromise? Can you recall a situation in which the desire to fit in made it harder to do what was right?

The threat of the law.

7. Many Christians in the West over the past decade abandoned classical, biblical views of human sexuality and marriage as culture promoted – and legislated – new ways of thinking. Why do you think this happened? How should Christians respond when a law, cultural expectation, or popular opinion conflicts with their understanding of God's Word?

The threat of hostility.

8. Daniel knew the consequences of continuing to pray, yet he remained faithful to his established practice. What do you think enabled Daniel to remain steadfast under pressure? What spiritual habits can help prepare us to stand firm before a crisis arrives?

Part 3: Trusting God In The Lion's Den

9. Read 2 Timothy 3:12. Write it out.

Daniel was delivered from the lions, but the teaching reminds us that God does not always spare his people from suffering. In what ways have you suffered for your faith up to this point?

How familiar are you with the suffering being faced right now by Christian brothers and sisters of ours around the world? Go to www.persecution.com right now and spend 5-10 minutes exploring the website on your own or as a group. Share some thoughts you're having as you do this exercise.

10. Christ, our ultimate hope. The sermon connects Daniel's deliverance with Jesus, who willingly became the Lamb of God and gave his life for our sins. How does Christ's sacrifice inspire or motivate you to give more, love more, and endure more, for him?

For Further Reflection

- Examine your pressure points. Which of the three threats—the crowd, the law, or outright hostility—would be most difficult for you to withstand? Why? What practical steps could help you prepare for that pressure?
- Take one step this week. What is one specific area of your life where God may be calling you to greater integrity? What action can you take this week, and how can the group pray for you?

Prayer Requests: