

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE  
WEEK 2

*enduring hope*

THE BOOK OF DANIEL

# CONNECT

- What activities do you like to do in the fall to make the most of it?
- What's a movie, tv show, or book that you've enjoyed that you'd describe as "inspiring"? In what way did it inspire you?
- Do you have a "fight" or "flight" response to dangerous situations? Any examples come to mind?

# RECAP

Here's an overview of the main ideas from the sermon.

## MAIN THEMES

**Big Idea:** The people of enduring hope are engaged but not enmeshed.

**Christ-Connect:** Jesus is the smashing rock that brings an end to worldly kingdoms, but who first let himself be smashed worldly kingdoms.

**Application:** Using Daniel's example, we must learn what it looks like to be engaged but not enmeshed, and then assess our own responses.

# *READ & DISCUSS*

## **READ**

Daniel 2:1-13

## **DISCUSS**

There were two outcomes facing these employees of Nebuchadnezzar: 1) be torn limb from limb and have your house and family destroyed, or 2) receive gifts, rewards, and great honor from the king. These moments that threaten to have the power to make us or break us reveal whether we're simply engaged or deeply enmeshed. Can you think of a time in your own life when a choice or a challenge was so filled with pressure that it felt like a make-or-break moment?

# *READ & DISCUSS*

## **READ**

Daniel 2:14-30

## **DISCUSS**

Daniel's response to a dangerous moment was profound. How do Daniel's actions and attitudes help you understand what it looks like to be engaged but not enmeshed? Do you see those traits in your own life?

# *READ & DISCUSS*

## **READ**

Daniel 2:31-45

## **DISCUSS**

Jesus is the one who announced the good news that the kingdom was at hand (Mark 1:15). He is the rock not formed through human agency who brings all worldly kingdoms to an end, who first let himself be smashed by worldly kingdoms. How can the meaning of Nebuchadnezzar's vision and the evidence of it we see in Jesus help you to live engaged but not enmeshed?

# *PRAYER*

Living this way isn't easy, and we can't do it in our own strength. Pray for the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit to live this way.

# *DISCIPLESHIP CHECK-IN*

- Have you read your Bible consistently the past week?
- Who is someone you're praying to share Jesus with?



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