

**INTEGRITY:  
“AN EXCELLENT SPIRIT WAS IN HIM”**

*Daniel 6*

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**INTRO** Consider the following quote by Chuck Swindoll, *“Few things are more infectious than a godly lifestyle. The people you rub shoulders with everyday need that kind of challenge. Not prudish. Not preachy. Just cracker jack, clean living. Just honest to goodness, bone-deep, non-hypocritical integrity.”*

**READ Daniel 6**

1. Write down what you know about the context of the book of Daniel?

- When was it written?

- What was going on with the people of Israel when this book was written?

- Roughly how old was Daniel and what was happening in his life when the events of chapter 6 took place?

2. It seems, as we read the narrative of Daniel and look at his life, he was meticulous to live in obedience to the Lord. Yet, even so, things went horribly wrong (6:1-9). How is this possible? Is it right for us to assume that, if we love and follow Jesus, people will love us and things will go well for us in this life? Explain your answer using Scripture to back it up.

3. Daniel’s integrity did not waiver even during intense opposition (6:10-11). He remained steadfast in his devotion to the Lord; he continued to be and do what he had always been and done. How was Daniel able to be undivided in heart and uncompromising in action in the face of such opposition?

a) GK Chesterton is quoted as saying, “Right is right even if nobody does it. Wrong is wrong, even if everybody is wrong about it.” What personal application can you draw from this regarding your own life, given the state of our culture today?

4. Why is it important for us to remember that people are not our enemies, but the devil is? How can we come to the point of seeing malicious people as agents of God's will in our lives (6:12-15, also see Gen. 50:18-21)?

5. Consider the following quote by John Milton, *"I will not deny but that the best apology against false accusers is silence and sufferance, and honest deeds against dishonest words."* Do you agree or disagree with this quote?

a) Is there a time to remain silent and a time to speak up? How can we discern between the two? *[Contrast Jesus with Pilot in Mark 15:1-5 vs. Paul with Felix in Acts 24 and Paul before Agrippa and Festus in Acts 26:1-32]*

6. In each of the cases we have looked at (Daniel, Jesus and Paul), they all left it with God to decide what was best for them. What might this look like in your own life as you seek to live with integrity while enduring opposition? In what ways would you like to grow in this specifically?

## **BREAKOUT**

1. Take time to worship and give thanks to our faithful God, who is sovereign and benevolent to us even in the hardest of times.

2. Share within your group what you have learned through this study and one area of life you are/have struggled to walk with integrity. *(Have someone in the group record these and share them with the group via whatsapp, telegram, email, etc. But be sure to keep this confidential!)*

3. Share personal prayer requests in your group and pray for one another specifically and by name, with urgency and conviction, knowing that God hears and responds to the prayers of His people.