

Who Do You (Really) Think You Are?

Part 3

Key Scriptures: John 15:18 – 19; Daniel 6:24 – 28; Galatians 6:7; Deuteronomy 24:16; Romans 1:16

1. Start talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- Have you ever met someone who seemed to hate you for no reason? Share your experience. Did you ever figure out why? (a misunderstanding, bad first impression, poor assumptions, or maybe they are just acting out of hurt?)
- Have you ever tried to manufacture a first impression that wasn't you? Maybe you took far too long to decide what to wear? Or how much you would spend? Or a way to extravagant gift? How did that turn out?

2. Start thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- What did the men trying to trap Daniel find out about him in Daniel 6:5? How did that change the way they felt toward Daniel? Why?
- How did Daniel change after the decree was passed to only pray to King Darius? (Daniel 6:10) Why did Daniel respond that way?
- When King Darius discovered that Daniel was still alive in the lion's den, how did he react? Was his reaction justified or wise? Was his reaction decreed by God? (Deuteronomy 24:16) Why or why not?
- What does the Bible say are the consequences or blessings of our actions? (Galatians 6:7) How does this help you make wise decisions?

3. Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- Have you ever faced an unfair situation, or been set up by someone to fail? How did you react? Was your reaction a reflection of how God wants us to react?
- King Darius realizes three things in Daniel 6:26-27:
 - God is alive and protects His followers by bringing justice to those who go against them.
 - God's authority and control will never pass away.
 - God rescues and He saves.

How does knowing that God will both love and bring justice to everyone affect the way you interact with friends? Enemies? Family? Co-workers or classmates? Bosses or teachers? Other Christians?

- Why did God spare Daniel? How does that impact you today?

4. Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

- Pray that your life might be a strong witness, even if you never get to talk about your faith, you are living your faith.
- Pray for wisdom in how to conduct yourself and the blessing that you might be to your family, business, school and strangers.

5. Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Memorize Romans 1:16 – **“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes.”**