

CHARACTER LESSONS FROM BIBLE HEROES

July 30th / 31st, 2022

Pastor Steve

Daniel: A Portrait of Integrity

And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.

Hebrews 11:6

I know, my God, that you examine our hearts and rejoice when you find integrity there. You know I have done all this with good motives, and I have watched your people offer their gifts willingly and joyously.

1 Chronicles 29:17

Daniel 1:1-15

To Live a Life of Integrity I:

- I) _____ What I Believe
- A) Cry out for insight, and ask for understanding. Search for them as you would for silver; seek them like hidden treasures. Then you will understand what it means to fear the LORD, and you will gain knowledge of God. Proverbs 2:3-5
 - B) Jesus told them, "This is the only work God wants from you: Believe in the one he has sent." John 6:29
 - C) But Daniel was determined not to defile himself by eating the food and wine given to them by the king. Daniel 1:8a
 - D) "What do you mean, 'If I can'?" Jesus asked. "Anything is possible if a person believes." Mark 9:23
- II) _____ What I Believe.
- A) If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God whom we serve is able to save us. He will rescue us from your power, Your Majesty. But even if he doesn't, we want to make it clear to you, Your Majesty, that we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up." Daniel 3:17-18
 - B) ²⁵ "Look!" Nebuchadnezzar shouted. "I see four men, unbound, walking around in the fire unharmed! And the fourth looks like a god!" ²⁶ Then Nebuchadnezzar came as close as he could to the door of the flaming furnace and shouted: "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!" So Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego stepped out of the fire. ²⁷ Then the high officers, officials, governors, and advisers crowded around them and saw that the fire had not touched them. Not a hair on their heads was singed, and their clothing was not scorched. They didn't even smell of smoke! ²⁸ Then Nebuchadnezzar said, "Praise to the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego! He sent his angel to rescue his servants who trusted

in him. They defied the king's command and were willing to die rather than serve or worship any god except their own God. Daniel 3:25-28

C) But the Lord is faithful; he will strengthen you and guard you from the evil one. 2 Thessalonians 3:3

D) I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13

III) _____ What I Believe.

A) These were his instructions to them: "You must always act in the fear of the LORD, with faithfulness and an undivided heart. 2 Chronicles 19:9

B) Daniel 6:4-23

C) Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. Romans 12:2

D) "Look, I am sending you out as sheep among wolves. So be as shrewd as snakes and harmless as doves. Matthew 10:16

E) Joyful are people of integrity, who follow the instructions of the LORD. Psalm 119:1

IV) _____ What I Believe.

A) Then Daniel went home and told his friends Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah what had happened. Daniel 2:17

B) But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, "How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!" Romans 10:14-15