

## Weekly Devotional

\*Material from "The Story" curriculum by Randy Frazee with Kevin and Sherry Harney.

### *Session 18 – Daniel in Exile*

"For he is the living God and he endures forever; his kingdom will not be destroyed, his dominion will never end. He rescues and he saves; he performs signs and wonders in the heavens and on the earth." Daniel 6:26-27

According to 1 Peter 2:11-12 those who follow God today are exiles too. Peter writes: "Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. Live such good lives among the Gentiles that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us."

You may have days when you just don't seem to "fit" in this world and that's a good thing. It's simply because as a child of God you don't. You were made to live with him. Until we are home in heaven, you and I are exiles. Until then, we have things to do. We can add some good to this life so that others can get a glimpse of God. We can make a difference.

Read Ch. 18 in The Story book or in your Bible (you will be reading from 2 books of the Bible: **Daniel 1:3-21; 2:1-30, 46-49; 3:1-30; 6:1-27** and **Jeremiah 30:2-3,8,10,11; 29:10-14; and 31:23-25.**

Think on these questions:

1. What do these passages tell us about GOD? (Who is God? What is God like? What has God done?)
2. What do these passages tell us about US (Human Beings)? (What/how are we supposed to be? What has gone wrong?)
3. What do these passages tell us about HOW WE SHOULD LIVE? (What has God done about what has gone wrong? What does He expect of us? How should we live?)

Closing Prayer:

*As you take time to pray, here are some ideas to get you started:*

- Pray for the strength and power to stand strong in your faith even when culture and people around you pressure you to compromise.
- Thank God that he is with you even in the hard, challenging moments in life.

Personal Action:

Building relationships with others is vital to who we are as human beings. Make work of building a small community of faithful friends that you can depend on to support you and hold you accountable. Pray for and look for people of integrity who can become long-term friends and supporters.

Next Session: Please read ch 19 of The Story, "The Return Home."