



Engaging to Be a Good Influence

Daniel 4:27

“King Nebuchadnezzar, please accept my advice. Stop sinning and do what is right. Break from your wicked past and be merciful to the poor. Perhaps then you will continue to prosper.” Daniel 4:27 (NLT)

Main Point: When we engage like Daniel did in the political arena and call out right from wrong, God may choose mercy and relent for a time.

Introduction: Use the following questions to introduce the topic of discussion -

What does it mean to be living in a post-Christian nation?

Do you watch, or allow your children to watch shows like Modern Family? Why or why not?

Have a Volunteer Read Daniel 4:27.

More and more we find ourselves living in a modern day Babylon where God's design for life is being mocked and ridiculed and those who believe in His word are seen as bigots. But God has put Christians in places of influence, much like Daniel, who have the ear of their superiors. There is still hope we can turn this nation around, but it has to start with Christians willing to get involved.

Daniel engaged by **BEING INVOLVED.** (v. 27)

Have you ever considered getting involved in a political campaign or any other civil process? Why do you think so few people are engaging in this area now?

Read **Proverbs 29:2.** Does this verse encourage you to get involved in our civil rights? Why or why not?

God gave Daniel wisdom and position to influence the kingdom. What has God given you as leverage to influence the people and opinions around you?

Daniel engaged by **CALLING OUT RIGHT FROM WRONG.** (v.27)

After Daniel interprets the king's dream he approaches him in a very deliberate way by asking to “please accept my advice.” What can we learn from Daniel when pointing out right from wrong around us?

Read **Acts 4:19**. What does Peter and John's stance in this verse tell us about obeying authority?

Proverbs 12:15 says, "the way of fools seems right to them, but the wise listen to advice." How do we know what is foolishness and what is wise? What is right, and what is wrong?

Read **Psalm 119:125-128** and discuss how it applies to the current state of our politics and how we should respond as believers in God's statutes.

Daniel engaged by **HOPING FOR GOD'S MERCY**. (v.27)

What was Daniel indicating was the only way God would have mercy on Babylon and Nebuchadnezzar? What will it take for our nation, and you personally to achieve this?

Jonah believed it foolishness to preach repentance to the Ninevites in hope that God would relent. (**Jonah 4:2**) Do you believe it's too late to make a difference in our nation and in our world by pointing out truth and righteousness? Explain.

Are you hoping for God's mercy on us? Why or why not?

Read through David's prayer for mercy in **Psalm 143**. Make this your prayer tonight, replacing the pronouns making it relevant for our church and your group.

Pray:

As you close your time together pray for our nation. Ask God to show you where to get involved in the political process and to give you wisdom, based on His word, when voting this election and in the future. Pray for courage to point our right from wrong and do it in a loving and compassionate way as Daniel did. Ask God for mercy in hopes that He might abstain from judgement for a time that we might complete our mission in this life.

Connect:

Call the church office (803.419.0989) or email info@blythewoodvillage.com to see where you can get plugged into Civic Ministry today!