



Daniel 3 - Pluralism, Compromise and the Protection of Jesus

Small Group Work Sheet
December 23, 2012

Part 1 - Ice Breaker

What are your plans for Christmas?

Part 2 - Sermon Review

1. How were the Israelites in Babylonian exile to relate with the pagan pluralistic world they lived in? What does that teach us about how we should live in America today?
2. Read Daniel 3:1-7. What were the two parts of Nebuchadnezzar's strategy to force cultural assimilation? What role did the golden statue play in the plan?
3. Tim Tebow is an example of the tension our culture feels when what many feel should be a private faith is displayed in a public world. Can you think of other examples (Christmas trees vs. Holiday trees. Nativity Scenes in public parks)? How can I live my faith in a more public way?
4. Read Daniel 3:8-15. As Christians living in a pluralistic world similar to Babylon, what will be the sources of our persecution?
5. If we don't face persecution, that may be a sign that something happened to our faith. What is it?
6. What is pluralism? Why is pluralism illogical?
7. When facing cultural persecution, what are two things we must remember?
8. What is the "up" side of not compromising our faith when we face cultural pressure?
9. Read Daniel 3:28-29. What amazed Nebuchadnezzar about the way Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were delivered? What does that teach us about the way Jesus delivers us?
10. Jesus protected Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego from the flames of Nebuchadnezzar's wrath. When Jesus came at Christmas, what did he come to protect us from?

