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NEXT STEPS

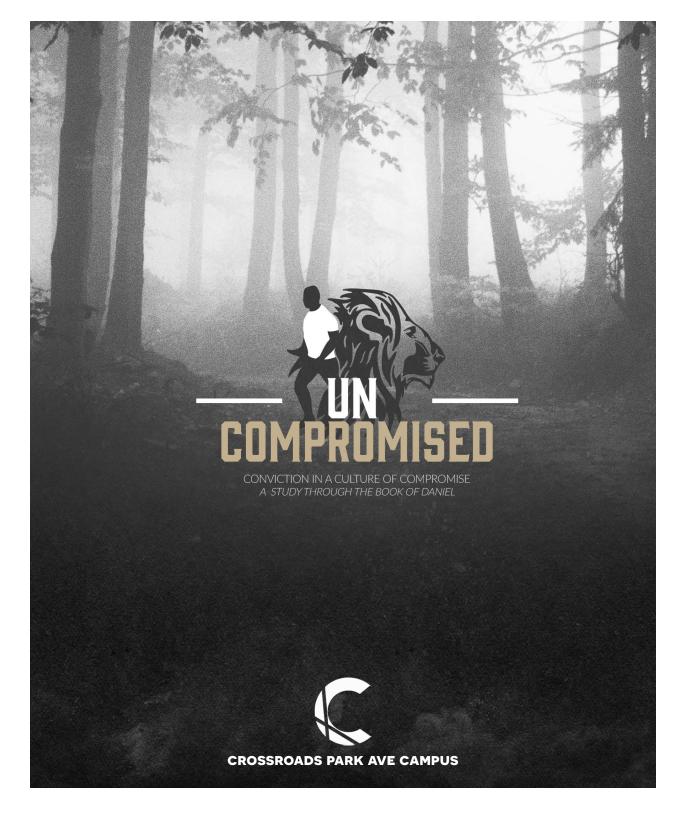
Whether you are new or have been at Crossroads since the beginning, you can get more information about our church or talk with a Pastor at Next Steps. We would love to connect with you today and help you take the Next Step in your spiritual journey.





NEW HERE

If this is your first time with us, Welcome! We have a gift for you. Just take the info card from the seatback in front of you, fill it out and drop it off at the New Here kiosk in the Lobby. We will also donate one dollar to one of our local mission partners in your honor just for being with us today.





JESSE RIDER - CITY CENTER CAMPUS PASTOR

MAY 2, 2021

UnCompromised: Standing Up in a Bowed Down World Daniel 3:1-30

The Trials (Daniel 3:1-15)

James 1:2 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.

Physical Trials Mental Trials Emotional Trials Relational Trials

Trials Review

What lesson am I supposed to learn? How do I see God more clearly now? How will my life change?

The Trust (Daniel 3:16-18)

It was their knowledge in Christ that gave them confidence in Christ.

The Triumph (Daniel 3:28-29)

The Glory of God's faithfulness is that no sin of ours has ever made Him unfaithful. ~Charles Spurgeon

__deeper study

For personal study, family study, or community group discussion

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Open:

What do you think was going through Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego's head when they heard that everyone must bow to the idol of gold or be cast into the fiery furnace? Have you faced a challenge that felt similar? Share your story.

Read:

Exodus 3:12; Isaiah 43:2; Matthew 28:18-20; Hebrew 13:5; James 5:10-11a; 1 Peter 4:12-14

Discuss:

- 1. The New City Catechism says, "Idolatry is trusting in created things rather than the Creator for our hope and happiness, significance and security." What are the similarities and differences between the idolatry of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego's day and our day? And how does the world communicate to us that we should bow?
- 2. What does God's faithfulness mean to you? How have you experienced God's faithfulness in your life?
- 3. How can you grow to trust in Christ in adverse situations? What do you think helped Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego to respond in the way they did?
- 4. God could have saved the three men before they were thrown into the furnace. What does the experience of actually walking through the fire show us about their faith? What does it show us about God's love and salvation?
- 5. The king was shocked to see four men in the fire and described the appearance of one of them as looking like the Son of God. Most scholars believe this was actually a pre-incarnation appearance of Jesus. What does this display about God's love for the three men? How does this connect to our lives today?

Pray:

Pray that you would have a clearer view of God's glory at work in every detail of your life. Ask God to reveal to you your passions that have the potential to pull you away from fully living for God's glory. Pray that our church would be a beautiful reflection of God's glory throughout the region.

Memorize/Meditate:

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you" (Isaiah 43:2).