

## Resolute in Purpose (Daniel chapters 1-6)

### Questions for Reflection & Discussion

Note: Corresponding lectures can be found at [www.st.lukes.org/podcast](http://www.st.lukes.org/podcast) (listed by date).

#### **9.2.2024 – Resolute in Purpose (part 1) – Daniel chapter 3**

1. Re-read chapter 3 verse 17. How do you think you would have reacted in a similar case? In what ways has your faith been tested and how have you responded?
2. What lessons have you learned previously about this story? How are they different than what you heard in the lecture?
3. Consider the idea of God's promise of presence vs God's promise of deliverance. Which do you value more? How does that impact your faith?

#### **9.9.2024 – Resolute in Purpose (part 2) – Daniel chapter 1**

1. Why do you think Daniel and his friends refused the King's food while accepting other practices in the King's court?
2. How would someone know that you are a follower of Jesus?
3. What about you would stand out to a friend or neighbor even if they didn't know you were involved at St. Luke's? Is it something you consistently do (or don't do)?
4. In what situations is it appropriate to just fit in and play the long game, and when should we draw the line and stand up for what we believe?
5. How do you publicly express your faith?

#### **9.16.2024 – Resolute in Purpose (part 3) – Daniel Chapters 2 & 4**

1. What constraints do you face?
2. How are you using your agency and influence for the good of others?
3. What would it look like to step out of the reality of your own constraints and take risks that would benefit others who are more vulnerable or who face even more constraints in life than you?
4. Where and how is God asking you to lean in to opportunities to use whatever skills you have or whatever positions you find yourself in to work for justice, compassion, and hope in a world that is deeply broken?

#### **9.23.2024 – Resolute in Purpose (part 4) – Daniel chapters 5 & 6**

Note: Be sure to listen (or view) the lecture video before considering these questions!

1. When have you been called to speak up for or against something or someone? How did you discern this? What did you do?
2. When have you stayed silent when you felt you should speak up? How did that turn out?
3. Does the deliverance of one group necessarily have to result in the destruction of another?

4. When does the guarantee of safety for one group become a justification for the oppression of another?
5. How are you seeing this played out in the world today?
6. What can we do to foster reconciliation among our own friends and family? Among other groups?