

“Daniel: Extravagant Providence” by Zazz Oosthuizen

Questions to consider, discuss or journal.

1. Did any part of the Daniel story resonate with you in a new way?
2. The author proposes that a reason Daniel may not have returned to Jerusalem is that perhaps he believed he could do more good in the position of influence he found himself in – in Babylon. In your life, in what spheres can you do the most good?
3. Daniel’s first act of influencing was for good in that he immediately thought of others. How can you retrain your thoughts and put this into practice to ask yourself, how can I use this advantage for the good of others? What are we doing to use our influence for the good of others versus our own good?
4. Daniel’s influence for good was directed at all manner of people, slaves, prophets, friends, and prisoners. How can you show love and grace more fully to all manner of people?
5. Have you been placed in a position of authority that you could use for good?
6. How do we leverage our assets or relationships to better serve our fellow men and women?
7. We see examples in Daniel and Jesus of giving thanks in an hour of need and distress. What can you be thankful for in your hour of need or distress?
8. "Nothing can separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus, and nothing could separate Israel from the love of God which was in the prophet Daniel." We see Israel experiencing the love of God moving through the prophet Daniel. How do you experience the love of God?