

## “The Power of a Worshiping People— Confronting Culture”

**Central Thought:** When we live Godwardly, we gain the wisdom, balance and courage to stand for Christ’s Kingdom in the face of ungodly cultures and their values.

### 1. Daniel 6 principles for confronting culture and values

- v.2—Daniel was given p\_\_\_\_\_ because of his excellence.
  - Use your position to advance the true K\_\_\_\_\_.
  - Jesus’ e\_\_\_\_\_—John 1:14; Philippians 2:6.
- v.4-5—Daniel maintained a p\_\_\_\_\_ of blamelessness.
  - Live G\_\_\_\_\_ in everyday situations so that you earn the right to be heard in oppositional situations (1 Peter 2:12).
- v.10—Daniel went to God instead of c\_\_\_\_\_ the issue.
  - Remember that God has called us to r\_\_\_\_\_ Him and NOT to fix culture (Mt.5:14-16; Jn.9:5)

### 2. Enduring the fire of godless cultures— fixing our eyes on Jesus.

- Be empowered in c\_\_\_\_\_.
- Acts 2:42-47
- Discern the k\_\_\_\_\_ in all things. John 18:36; Hebrews 11:13

#### Four options:

- 1) In the world and Of the world—no m\_\_\_\_\_.
  - 2) Not in the world and Not of the world—no one to t\_\_\_\_\_.
  - 3) Not in the world but Of the world—no one i\_\_\_\_\_.
  - 4) In the world and Not of the world—what Jesus p\_\_\_\_\_; Jn.17:13ff
- Live as an active r\_\_\_\_\_ of the world’s kingdom. John (1:10); 9:5; 17:15
  - Live as a radical c\_\_\_\_\_ of God’s Kingdom. Matthew 5:29ff ; 1 John 2:15-17

- Connect all v\_\_\_\_\_ to God and His purposes in your life. Jeremiah 29:11; Matthew 6:33
- Throw off a \_\_\_\_\_ that cannot be God-connected. Hebrews 12:1
- Be willing to feel e\_\_\_\_\_ or laughed at. Luke 21:17

**Word bank:** anything, citizen, community, confronting, example, excluded, Godwardly, interested, Kingdom, kingdoms, message, platform, position, prayed, represent, resident, tell, values

### Questions for home groups / meditation

- What worldly values do I hold unchallenged in my life?
- What values have I allowed my culture to give me rather than the Word of God?
- How comfortable am I with the fact that Jesus was a homeless man on earth? Luke 9:58
- Do my views of money, relationships, vocation, possessions, sexuality, authority, marriage and church align with Jesus’ values and His Kingdom?
- In what ways have I become accustomed to godlessness around me?
- In what ways am I fearful of standing against my culture? What would it cost me to do so?
- Do I believe that God would sustain me in standing against culture?
- What does it mean to me that I am a citizen of God’s Kingdom?
- In which kingdom would my friends say I live as a *true* citizen—God’s or the world’s? Why?