



- How **strong** we stand depends on where we get our **strength** to stand.

I can do all things through Christ, because he gives me strength. Philippians 4:13

Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. Do everything in love. 1 Corinthians 16:13-14

(King) Darius thought it would be a good idea to choose one hundred twenty governors who would rule his kingdom. He chose three men as supervisors over those governors, and Daniel was one of the supervisors. The supervisors were to ensure that the governors did not try to cheat the king. Daniel, distinguished himself among the other supervisors and governors because there was an extraordinary spirit in him, so the king planned to put Daniel in charge of the whole kingdom. Daniel 6:1-3

- Your **attitude** determines your altitude.

...Daniel, distinguished himself among the other supervisors and governors because there was an extraordinary spirit in him, ... Daniel 6:3

Because of this, the other supervisors and governors tried to find reasons to accuse Daniel about his work in the government. But they could not find anything wrong with him or any reason to accuse him, because he was trustworthy and not lazy or dishonest. Finally these men said, "We will never find any reason to accuse Daniel unless it is about his religious practices." Daniel 6:4-5

Three truths to help you stand strong:

- When God raises you **up**, expect people to tear you **down**.

- Our posture **before God** changes our posture to the world.

But when Daniel learned that the law had been signed, he went home and knelt down as usual in his upstairs room, with its windows open toward Jerusalem. He prayed three times a day, just as he had always done, giving thanks to his God. Daniel 6:10

When I face a problem I will **pray first**.

Two things about Daniels prayer:

- His posture shaped his **heart**.

...he went home and knelt down as usual in his upstairs room, with its windows open toward Jerusalem. He prayed three times a day, just as he had always done... Daniel 6:10b

- His heart shaped his **words**.

...He prayed three times a day, just as he had always done, giving thanks to his God. Daniel 6:10b

When life gives you more than you can stand, **kneel before God**.

- When you do what's **right**, you can trust God with what's **left**.

...he came near the den, he called to Daniel in an anguished voice, "Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to rescue you from the lions?" Daniel 6:20

'My God sent His angel, and He shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in His sight. Nor have I ever done any wrong before you, Your Majesty.' The king was overjoyed and gave orders to lift Daniel out of the den. And when Daniel was lifted from the den, no wound was found on him – Daniel 6:22-23



TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?
- What in this story speaks most to you?
- What happens when we depend on God's people for strength rather than on God for strength? What are some ways we get strength from God?
- What was Dave referring to when he said: "Your attitude determines your altitude"? (Not Success, not position, but...?)
- Have you experienced people tearing you down when God has done something great for you? Explain.
- How does our posture before God change our posture to the world?
- Do you find that prayer is your last resort or your first thought? How do we make prayer our first thought?
- How did Daniel show humility in his prayer posture? How often do you kneel?
- How did humility shape gratitude? Why is gratitude so important?
- Do you have confidence that when we do what's right we can trust God with the results?

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