



The Daniel Dilemma

Big Idea

Pastor Curt - 3

We're in a series called "**The Daniel Dilemma**" to teach us **how to stand firm and love well in a culture of compromise**. As we walk through our daily lives, it can feel like we are constantly battered with competing messages through our televisions, radios, social media, and even our friends and family. The fact is, the enemy has an agenda and uses culture in an effort to influence the way we think and feel. Each of us should answer this question: Will I change the world or will the world change me? The question for the church is similar: Will the church be impacted by the culture we live in or will it be an agent of change for the culture?

PC said, "The biggest sin of a compromised culture is Pride...Pride creeps into the church and our own lives - this is a challenge for us - the church." Pride leads us down a pathway where we are too **comfortable** in our own smorgasbord style of Christianity, too **confident** in our own accomplishments and God's lack of discipline, and too **conceited** in ourselves. Every Christian needs to wrestle with this question: Does God have the right to be God? Your answer to this question determines your relationship with God.

Our culture and our churches need 3 things: an attitude of **Humility, Surrender and Worship**. 2 Chronicles 7:14 "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land." We need this healing today. Be an agent of change!

Discussion Questions

- Would you say that the church is having a bigger impact on the culture or that the culture is having a bigger impact on the church? In what areas?
- PC said, "Pride creeps into the church and our own lives - this is a challenge for us." What examples have you seen that would support this? What are the dangers of pride like that?
- PC said there's a difference between believing in God and believing on God. How would you describe this difference?
- PC described pride as becoming "too comfortable, confident and conceited." Which of these is most challenging for you?
- PC said, "Every Christian needs to wrestle with this question: Does God have the right to be God in my life?" Discuss this.

Prayer Focus

Praise God today and humble yourself before Him. Acknowledge that every good gift is from Him and belongs to Him. Ask the Holy Spirit to teach you to live humbly and grow in wisdom so that you can see the lies of the enemy for what they are.

Next Steps

Consider your every day relationships. Does your communication reflect a self-promoting or God-promoting attitude? Begin shifting conversations to reflect what God has done in your life rather than your accomplishments. Start a journal where you reflect on the ways God provides for you daily.

Leader Tip

Encourage you Group to be aware of divine decision points, where they have the opportunity to choose an attitude of humility, surrender, and worship to counter pride. It must begin with you and me. What next step can you lead your Group to take in one or all three of these areas?