

In the end of the passage from Daniel (chapter 3) that we looked at on Sunday, God honored Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and protected them from the furnace. How does God honor people who stand up for him today?

Sometimes standing up for God might cost us something in the short-term (friendships, status at work, our job, etc.). Even if the immediate cost is great, can the end result be good and God-honoring? How? Can you think of an example from your life or the life of someone you know that demonstrates this?

#### **Taking it Home**

What are some places or ways that you can take a stand for your faith in your work (paid or unpaid)? Is there a specific situation or person that comes to mind?

Knowing that God honors us for being faithful and that he uses these hard situations to grow our faith, what makes standing up for faith to be difficult?

Is there anything related to this for which you'd like prayer?

## **Sermon Notes**

### **Standing Up for God at Work**

Daniel 3:8-18

Nolan Donald

February 7, 2010



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## Community Group Study Guide

*For the week of February 7, 2010*

### Quick Review

Was there any one thing that you most agreed with or disagreed with from Sunday's message? What was it and why?

### My Story

When you were young, did your family have lots of confrontation or did they let more things slide? How does this compare to your current family?

When you think about your spiritual journey, can you remember people who "stood up" for their faith in tough situations? What were they like?

Can you remember people who tended to back away from opportunities to stand up? How were they different?

### Digging Deeper

On Sunday, Nolan suggested that we should expect to encounter situations where we have to take a stand for our faith. Read these passages of Scripture. Write down what you learn about trials, sufferings, and their purpose.

- Matthew 5:10-12

- Romans 5:1-5

- James 1:2-4

- 1 Peter 1:6-9

- 1 Peter 4:12-16

Based on what you read, why do you think that opportunities to stand-up for faith or endure trials or suffering are seen as such a good thing?

Once we know that we will face struggles and have opportunities to take a stand for our faith, we must prepare. Read 1 Peter 3:15-18. How should we approach encounters where we stand up for God?

Read Ephesians 6:10-18. Jot down key components you see as needed to be ready to live out our faith in a trying situation.

The author uses powerful imagery to describe preparing ourselves for the trials we will face. What are some ways that we can "put on" things like truth, righteousness, peace, faith, salvation, and the Word in our day-to-day lives. Be as specific as possible.