

## Growth Groups Lesson

March 5-6

Daniel 10

**Big Idea:** Daniel is persistently praying to God for the exiled Israelites. God sends his answer immediately to Daniel, but the response doesn't come for 21 days because a spiritual battle delays the messenger. Persistent prayer is the key to victory in spiritual warfare.

**Spend some time praying with your group and ask for help in seeing and applying His Word.** Review and reflect on the prayer requests given the previous week. Give the Lord praise for the answers to your group's prayers.

When have you been overwhelmed by an encounter with God or overcome by the weightiness of confusion from God's Word?

### Scan through Daniel 10

Daniel 10 introduces Daniel's fourth and final vision, and this final vision includes chapters 10 to 12. Chapter 10 removes the veil about the angelic and demonic struggle for the nations. Here we see the power of prayer in conjunction with God's plan and purpose. The "Prince of Persia" is a demonic force preventing a message from arriving to Daniel, who has been praying for 21 days.

### Read Daniel 10:1-3

1. Why is Daniel so burdened? Review Daniel 9.
2. How did Daniel respond to his burden?
3. Are you burdened for your children, family, and friends?
4. Have you ever been so burdened that you regularly fast and pray? If so, share that experience with your group.

Daniel's determination to keep praying regardless of the king's edict (chapter 6), the changing of his countenance indicating a struggle within to understand what he is seeing (chapter 7), sickness and fainting (chapter 8), his searching the Scriptures to find fulfilled prophecy in his day, and his confession for Israel's sins and his own (chapter 9) is an example for us.

### Read Daniel 10:4-9

5. Describe what Daniel saw while he was standing on the banks of the Tigris River.
6. What happened to the others that were with Daniel? Compare this to Saul's companions in Acts 9?
7. What was Daniel's reaction when he saw the man clothed in linen and heard the man speak?

Look at how Isaiah (Isaiah 6:1-5), Ezekiel (Ezekiel 1:1, 22-28), and John (Revelations 1:12-17a) respond to the majesty and power of God much like Daniel.

8. How does your response to God compare?

9. How might it grow to be more like theirs?

**Read Daniel 10:10-14**

Daniel has fallen on his face and is in a deep sleep. This is the first of three times that a hand touches him and is told he is greatly loved.

10. How did Daniel respond when he was touched?
11. When did the man start to come to Daniel, and why was the man sent to Daniel?
12. Notice how long it took for the man to meet Daniel. What was preventing him from meeting Daniel before he showed up?
13. What thoughts do you have about the invisible spiritual battles around us?
14. What does Paul instruct us to do about spiritual opposition by invisible enemies? **Eph. 6:10-20**

**Read Daniel 10:15-17**

After the words were spoken to Daniel, he turned his face to the ground and became mute. This is the second time Daniel has been touched.

15. What was Daniel's response after he had been touched a second time?

**Read Daniel 10:18-21**

Daniel is touched for the third time. Notice the man says that he will leave and continue to fight the Prince of Persia, and then the Prince of Greece will come. Remember Greg's teaching in chapter 7 about Daniel's vision. The leopard (Greek empire) will follow the bear (Medo-Persia empire).

16. What was Daniel's response after he had been touched the third time?
17. What are some ways to better seek God in your daily life, and develop a posture of prayer?
18. Share a time when God answered your persistent prayer. Did you continue to believe God would answer, or were you becoming discouraged because you saw no answer?

**End the evening praying:**

For those who have not experienced God's forgiveness.

To meet the needs of your group and community.