HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY

SUNDAY GROUPS TEACHING GUIDE

WEEK 1

MAIN SCRIPTURES:
Daniel 1 & 2

MAIN POINT #1:
As believers, we can still live and thrive in a world that hates God by trusting God is in control.

MAIN POINT #2:
God can use our influence to showcase his power.

LIVE AND VIDEO TEACHING HYBRID FORMAT

INTRO 1

- *Take a moment to introduce yourself and your topic:* Today we are going to be studying the book of Daniel and different ways it's relevant to us today.
- The first thing we are going to look at is how do we as Christians stand firm in our faith when pressure from our culture feels too heavy?

GOD: VIDEO 1

- Before viewing the session, here are a few important things to look for in Sadie's teaching. As you watch, pay attention to how she answers the following questions.
  - What caused Daniel's circumstance?
  - How did Daniel react to the king's new rules?
  - What did God do for Daniel and his three friends, and how did it benefit them?
- **Watch Session 1: God's in Control (7 minutes).**

PAUSE HERE AND USE DISCUSSION GUIDE PART 1.

INTRO 2

- *Take a moment to introduce today's second topic:*
- Even if we're not a social media influencer, we all have influence, whether we realize it or not.
- For believers, our influence becomes that much more important since we are to be a light to the world, showcasing the love of Christ.

GOD: VIDEO 2

- Before viewing the session, here are a few important things to look for in Sadie's teaching. As you watch, pay attention to how she answers the following questions.
  - How does Sadie describe the theme of Daniel 2?
  - What major issue was the king dealing with? How did he plan to relieve his stress?
  - How did Daniel's actions advance God's reputation among the unbelieving king?
- **Watch Session 2: The Power of Influence (7 minutes).**

NOTES

SO WHAT CONTINUED

JESUS CONNECTION

- Daniel is awesome, but Daniel isn't the hero of his story. God is the hero. God rescues and saves Daniel and his friends.
- Don't miss this: the same is true for us. We aren't the heroes of our story. God is the hero of our story and of our lives.
- God sent His son Jesus to rescue and save us from sin and death. We can only live faithful lives to God after we first put our faith in Jesus, in His loving grace.
- Once we take that first step, then we are called to a life of faithfulness. A life where we walk trusting God is faithful to us, even in the fire.

TRANSITION

- Daniel and his friends, the pressure of providing a quick answer to the king became a matter of life and death. Even with all the influence of their positions and the gifts God gave them, their actions showed that they knew only God could help them.
- So what does all this mean for us now?

NOW WHAT

NOW that I know, HOW can I live this out? (2-4 min)

YOU

- When is the last time you fully relied on God instead of the gifts that he gave you? As believers, we may have God-given gifts, talents, and status on our side like Daniel, but at the end of the day, God is the one who gets us through.

WE

- As believers, we may have God-given gifts, talents, and status on our side like Daniel, but at the end of the day, God is the one who gets us through.

PRAY

- Close your time together in prayer.
- Pray and ask God to help you use the influence you have to share the love of Christ and demonstrate his power regularly.

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