

UNLEASHED

1. **What was your worst job to date? Why?** *This mixer question is hopefully a fun way to get everyone engaged in the group discussion.*
2. **Read Daniel 6:1-28 and discuss the following:**
 - a. **What do you think motivated Daniel's peers to work against him?** *The text doesn't explicitly tell us but it could be that they were jealous of his gifts and favor OR they were prejudiced against him as a foreigner.*
 - b. **Share 1-2 words to describe Daniel's "nine to five" reputation.** *Answers will vary but could include: high integrity, excellent spirit (from v. 3), faithful and trustworthy, etc.*
 - c. **What impresses you the most about Daniel?** *Answers will vary but could include his reputation, his continued devotion to the Lord despite the new law, surviving a lion's den, his praise to the Lord after surviving, etc.*
 - d. **How did Daniel connect to God daily? Why do you think this was important to him?** *Daniel connected to the Lord three times a day through prayer on his knees (v. 10). He thanked God and asked the Lord for help. Answers will vary on why this was important to Daniel, but it could be so that he was not influenced by the Babylonian culture, so he stayed relationally connected to the Lord, and it was his source of strength and excellence.*
3. **What are the abilities God has given you to bring blessing to those in your "nine to five" life? Are you able to bless those who are against you? How can you start?** *Answers will vary but should include each person's spiritual gifts plus other talents, experience, and abilities. Daniel was able to bless others as he lead well with excellence. King Darius was blessed as his authority. We are called to bless those who persecute us by Jesus himself (Matthew 5:43-48). Praying for those who are against us might be the first way many of us could start be blessing.*
4. **What 1-2 words would others use to describe you at your "nine to five"? What would you like those words to be? What are the characteristics of an "excellent spirit" you need the Lord to develop in you while at your "nine to five"?** *Answers will vary. This question might be best to answer in a gender specific sub-group. The answer to this question will be the focus of the prayer time later.*
5. **In your busy "nine to five" schedule, when could you stop for a moment to pray and give thanks to God? Take time now to set up the ECHO Prayer app on your smart phone. See www.bethel-church.org/unleashed Week 4 Small Group Resources for instructions.** *Brainstorm together on times during the day that would work for each individual – a stay at home mom might do so during naptime 2 times/day; a teacher might need to pray between each class or during lunch. Those with more flexibility could take 1-3 minutes every hour, every two hours, etc. The ECHO app can be customized as needed as an alert and on content for the prayer. You can pray to live in step with the Spirit (Gal 5:25), to be a light to co-workers (Matt 5:14-16), for wisdom (James 1:5), for family, for small group members, for work peers, etc.*
6. **What is one thing you know you need to change in how you approach your "nine to five" life in order to be unleashed for Christ?** *Dave Dawson ends the sermon with this challenge.*
7. **Use your answers to questions #4 and #6 to pray for one another.**