



LESSON 2 // GO DEEP

Big Idea: To navigate a ship successfully you must pay attention to the depth of the water. And when it comes to your spiritual life, you need depth. Without it, you run aground—you run into trouble.

To go deep as a believer in Jesus, don't be afraid to be different. Choose friends who will go deep with you. Be willing to sacrifice for your faith. Keep a positive spirit and expect to see miracles others don't see and make an impact others don't make.

Daniel 3:16-18 (NIV) *Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to him, "King Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter. If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and he will deliver us from Your Majesty's hand. But even if he does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up."*

Start Talking:

Talk about a time when you had to take a stand for something you believe in (maybe in a situation at work or a conversation with a family member or friend). What was most challenging about this for you?

Start Thinking:

Read Matthew 7:13-14. What do these words from Jesus tell you about being different and living different than those who don't follow Him?

Read Ecclesiastes 4:8-12. How can the right friends help you go deeper in your relationship with the Lord and with others?

Read Matthew 5:10-12. Why is it important to be willing to sacrifice for your faith in Christ?

Read Daniel 3:26-30. How does greater depth of commitment to God and relationship with Him result in greater impact for His kingdom?

Start Praying:

Pray for God's wisdom and practical insight about how you can be and live different than the world in order to make an impact for the Lord.

Start Doing:

Identify one way you can live differently, because of your commitment to Christ, in the relationships and interactions of your daily life—or strengthen something you are already trying to live out. *Some examples might be: reaching out to encourage a co-worker who is discouraged; telling someone that you will pray for them about the challenge they are facing; or helping a struggling family understand God's love for them by sharing your experience with the Lord.* Practice being intentional about this over the next week and write down how the Lord uses this for His purposes.