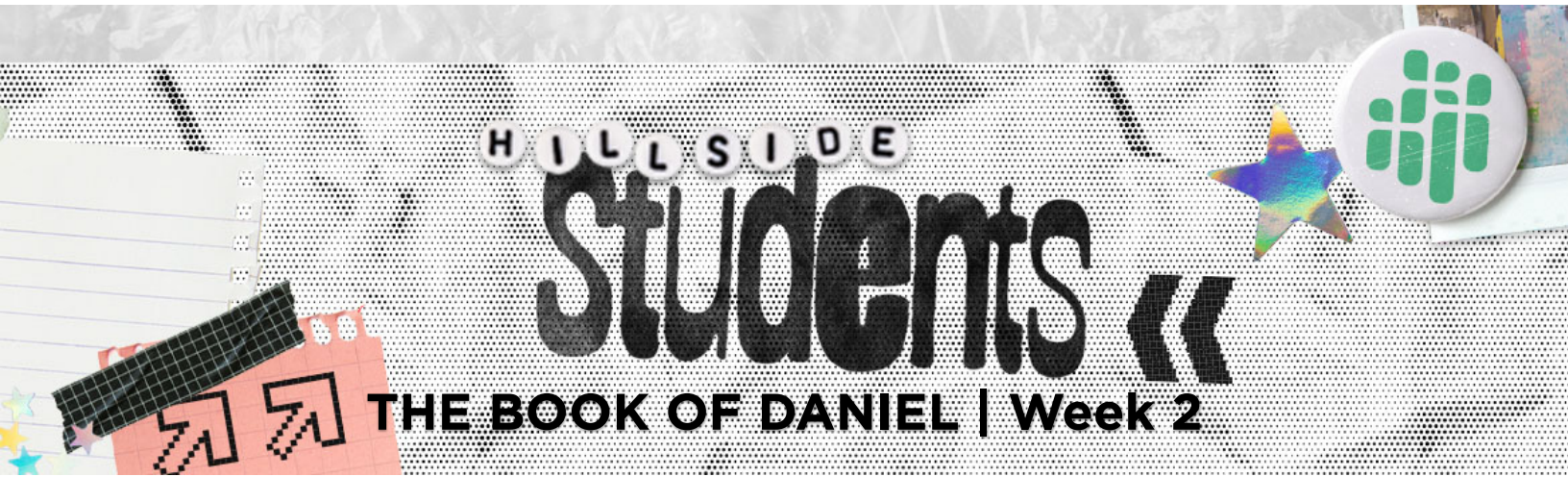




HILLSIDE

Students

THE BOOK OF DANIEL | Week 2

REMINDERS: Take ATTENDANCE! Use the app & let us know who to add/remove!

LEADER TOOLS

GAME: 🗨️🤔 **PLAY ZIP & WHOOSH!** Form a circle, standing closely together. Pick a player to begin. The first player says “zip” or “whoosh”. If they say “zip”, the turn passes to the player at their left. If they say “whoosh”, it passes to the player on their right. The next player must respond quickly, within a second, by saying “zip” or “whoosh” to pass the turn. If you don’t respond within a second when it’s your turn, you’re out. Also, if you speak out of turn, you’re out. Only the player whose turn it is can speak, and they can only say “zip” or “whoosh”. The game continues until there are only two players left – both players are the winners!

TOPIC OVERVIEW: Picture this. Out in a field - thousands of people are forcibly gathered. Music plays and an entire crowd hits the ground, bowing, in front of a ninety-foot golden statue of the king - all except three teenagers left standing where absolutely everyone can see them.

Previously, they had decided to stand firm when it came to just eating food that would have been against God’s instructions, they would not eat. But now, the pressure is bigger. Standing up for God can be hard enough when a few friends notice; these three did it with a furnace they had already lit. The king had given his instructions, and their answer to the king is one of the greatest statements of faith in the whole Bible. It has two halves that are both critical: our God is able to deliver us, but even if he does not, we will not bow.

ICE-BREAKERS:

- What is one word to describe this past week for you?
- Would you rather: fight a gorilla with a sword, or fight a horse with no weapons?

MESSAGE DEBRIEF & BIBLE STUDY:

- What stood out to you from the video?
- How have you felt pressure to give in or conform to the world, even though you knew it was wrong? How did you respond to that pressure?
- **Read Daniel 3:16-18.** Have you ever experienced an “even if” moment? What was that like?
- How are Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego able to have this much confidence? Where does it come from?
- Was their faith rooted in their ability or what they KNEW about God?
- What would it look like to have this same faith? What are moments you can think of where you want to have faith like them?
- **Read Matthew 16:24-26.** What would it look like for you to stand firm in the face of temptations?
- What are some scriptures that can remind us of God’s truth in this?
 - Take some time as a group to compile a list, and then pray some of these as a group!

DISCUSSION