



9 July 2017 – Ps Rebecca Green
Even If

1. I Have Decided

Daniel 3:17,18 *“If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God whom we serve is able to save us... **But even if he doesn’t**, we ... will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up.”*. Sometimes in life we will be required to have “even if” faith in God, just like that displayed by these Hebrew teenagers.

They said that even if the outcome is not what they want they trust Him anyway. Even if the answer does come as they think it will they will trust in his sovereignty. Even if the miracle does not happen as they prayed it would they will continue to believe he is able.

There are a number of lessons that we can learn from these Hebrew boys:

1. **My circumstances don’t affect His character:** We need to know that during difficult seasons our circumstances do not change any of those characteristics about God – he is still good, he is still loving, he is still faithful...he is still able.
2. **My worries do not supersede His word:** Matthew 7:25 *“Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock”*. God’s word is the rock that we can anchor our lives to, no matter our worries.
3. **My thoughts do not overthrow His throne:** We should not allow our thinking to rule our responses or allow our thoughts to dictate how we live out our circumstances rather than recognizing the one who is really in charge.

Even if faith still gives, turns up, prays, praises, obeys, forgives, loves and serves.

2. Discussion Points

- Ask the Group members to share stories of how they dealt with situations like that faced by the Hebrews boys – a “no-win” situation. What did they learn about God and themselves from going through these situations?
- How did the outcome of these situations affect their faith in God? What does it mean to build our lives on God’s word?
- Why is it sometimes so difficult to believe that God knows what is happening at all times and that he is working out all things for our good?
- What practical steps can we take to strengthen our faith so that no matter what happens our total trust is in God?

3. Prayer

Heavenly Father, help me to keep my eyes on you and to stay faithful to your word even when circumstances are looking bleak in my life. Amen