

**Big Idea:**

**I can Excelerate my spiritual growth by taking my Next Steps**

“There is a man in your kingdom in whom is the spirit of the holy gods...because an excellent spirit, knowledge, and understanding to interpret dreams, explain riddles, and solve problems were found in this Daniel...” daniel5/11>12esv

**\*I must develop Genuine Character as my starting point**

“rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. <sup>2</sup> Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation,” 1peter2/1>2

**\*I must Stand On My Own**

“Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery” galatians5/1

**\*I must become Comfortable In My Faith**

“Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering... Don’t become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You’ll be changed from the inside out.”  
Romans12/1>2theMessage

**\*I must learn to Deal With Problems better**

“consider yourselves fortunate when all kinds of trials come your way, <sup>3</sup> for you know that when your faith succeeds in facing such trials, the result is the ability to endure...” james1/2>3tev

This Fusion Group study guide is designed to help you apply the message to your life and grow in Christian maturity. We encourage you to make it a priority to be part of a Fusion Group on a regular basis. Our Fusion Groups are where faith and practice, where friendships with others, where learning and lifestyle are Fused Together. You can listen to our messages on our website: [www.acts176.com](http://www.acts176.com) by clicking on the “Resources” link. You can get info about our Fusion Groups from our website as well, or by emailing [info@acts176.com](mailto:info@acts176.com).

***Celebrate*** (celebrating who God is, and what He is doing)

Take a look at some of the things that you think make up your character.

1. Share some of the positive aspects with the group.
2. Why is it that you have these positive aspects of your character?

Read Daniel 5:11-12

3. Who/what were Daniels positive characteristics attributed to?

Think of recent problem that has arisen that you have handled well.

4. Why did you handle it so well?
5. Did you take any of the credit for handling the problem well for yourself?

***Contribute*** (contributing to God, His Church, and others)

1. How does having Genuine Character affect those around you?
2. Do you think it’s common to find authentic people?

Read Philippians 2:3

As part of your spiritual maturity, one must become more like Christ.

3. What does this mean our view of others should be?

***Connect*** (connecting with God and others)

Read Romans 12:1-2

1. What does Paul “urge” us to do?
2. What does it mean to be a “living sacrifice”?

Read Galatians 5:1

3. What is the yoke of slavery we can be burdened by?
4. What should we do with those yokes of slavery? (see Matthew 11:28-30)

***Create*** (Creating other Christ Followers, and creating God’s Kingdom on earth)

1. How can you use the strengths of your character to positively affect others for Christ?
2. How can you encourage others to continue to develop their genuine character?
3. What is the next step that you need to take as you pursue spiritual maturity?