## Food for Thought for the week of July 5/6, 2025

Revelation 3:7-13, Hebrews 12:26-28, Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 26-28 & 3:5,8-9,12, 21

In church this week, Pastor Jon gave a powerful message with a reminder that God is still calling us, even when the foundation is shaking beneath us.

- 1. This week let's look at the story of Daniel and see how it relates to Pastor Jon's message. Begin by reading Daniel 6:1-9. How was the the world beginning to shake under Daniel.
- 2. The other satraps knew that Daniel was a follower of God. This made them upset with Daniel, so they looked for a way to trap him. Read Daniel 6:10-11 to see how Daniel responded to the new decree that went against his commitment to God. As you think about Daniel's world beginning to shake, write down what feels like it is shaking in your world? How is this affecting your ability to be on mission with God?

3. Let's continue with Daniel 6:12-15. Pastor Jon shared with us that when the foundations is shaking, God will open doors for us to be faithful and trust in His strength. How does this moment create an open door for Daniel? Looking back at #2 above, can you see any open doors in your own "shaking"? 4. Daniel being thrown in the lion's den may not seem like an open door, but let's see what God was up to in Daniel 6:16-23. How does this passage illustrate Pastor Jon's point: "The synagogue of Satan will bow at your feet"?

5. Daniel's foundation began to shake when the other satraps turned against him. He was vulnerable and things were becoming unsteady. Yet Daniel's trust in who God was did not waver. He continued to seek God, talk to God and depend on Him. Being thrown into the lion's den, sure did not look like an open door, but Daniel confidently trusted in God, and God did what would seem impossible - He shut the mouths of the lions all night. As we finish up with Daniel 6:24-28 and write down how this part of the account illustrates Pastor Jon's final point, "Overcomers become pillars of strength in the House God is building."

6. As you reflect this week on Pastor Jon's message and this part of Daniel's story, pray and ask God to show you the open doors when your foundation is shaking. Then ask Him to give you the courage, trust and faith to become a pillar of strength in the midst of that shaking. Write down all that He shows you as you pray.