



## Part 8 – Thrive

March 12, 2017

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### 3 Characteristics that helped Daniel thrive in Babylon

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

### Next steps

- Answer these questions
    - In what ways do I feel like I really know God? In ways am I unsure of knowing God?
    - In what areas do I trust God the most? The least?
    - To what degree do I feel jaded by the idea of hope?
    - What makes me feel most hopeful? Least hopeful?
    - When do I find it most difficult to treat others well? Am I “honest” to the point of harshness?
    - How am I doing in regards to these words from Jesus?

<sup>43</sup> “You have heard the law that says, ‘Love your neighbor’ and hate your enemy.  
<sup>44</sup> But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you! <sup>45</sup> In that way, you will be acting as true children of your Father in heaven. For he gives his sunlight to both the evil and the good, and he sends rain on the just and the unjust alike. <sup>46</sup> If you love only those who love you, what reward is there for that? Even corrupt tax collectors do that much. <sup>47</sup> If you are kind only to your friends, how are you different from anyone else? Even pagans do that. <sup>48</sup> But you are to be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect. (Matthew 5:43-48)
  - Am I living in relationship with God and in line with his word? In what area(s) do I tend to struggle most? Though I struggle, what progress have I made?
  - What is my “knee jerk” reaction to godless people and situations? What would God think of my reaction? Why do I think so?
- Pray about learning to thrive in Babylon.
  - Plan to be here March 19 for the start of the “Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_.” series.