As we explore the message of “MAAFA” or “The Great Suffering” we are also going to consider the unique and powerful ways that God in the midst of suffering (that should have soiled our spirits with doubt, fear, hopelessness and utter despair) not only kept us but fortified our faith, clarified our witness and verified our connection to a divine other-worldly source of strength, power and hope. Furthermore, we will consider how in the midst of such conditions designed to destroy us culturally, historically, psychologically and spiritually God still gave/gives peace, creativity, courage, wisdom and a holy boldness to remain steadfast and unmovable.
God of Our Weary Years: Captured but not Conquered
Faith over Fear
Daniel Chps. 1-3.
Captured but not Conquered
Even through the Fire!
Pt. 2
Daniel chp. 2-3
What are some of thoughts, questions, insights, points to ponder, revelations or points of tensions etc.. you have in light of what you have heard or seen this month?
We will continue to look at how as a result of the fortified faith, certified witness and verified connection the spirit of righteous resistance, moral dissent and willful defiance did not stop but continued/es in the face of empire and circumstances meant to maintain power dynamics of inequality, toxicity and oppression.
Captured but not Conquered pt.3
“I thought I told that you that We Won’t Stop.”
Daniel Chps. 4-6.
After scaling the flagpole and taking down the flag, Newsome was arrested with fellow activist James Tyson on June 27, 2015. The state Legislature voted to remove the flag permanently less than three weeks later.

Timeline
2003:
In 2003, she was named one of the "20 Coolest Girls in America" by YM magazine.
2012:
Newsome first attracted national attention in 2012 when she released a music video, Shake It Like an Etch-A-Sketch, which satirized Mitt Romney.
2013:
Newsome was arrested in July 2013 at a sit-in at the office of then North Carolina House Speaker Thom Tillis while protesting North Carolina's voter ID law.
President and Chancellor resign along with four other deans. Mizzou Announces a 32 million dollar loss and student enrollment is down 1,500 students.
Dreams serve as the doorway through which God not only ushers in life changing truth, affirmation and divine wisdom but they also can become the portal/s through which God uses/enlists us to display/embody a different dimension of God’s power and glory in the world.
Chp. 4
V 8-9
V 22
V 26
V 34-37

Chp. 5
V 1-4
V 13-20
V 22-30
“Brother Malcolm is an expert organizer and an untiring worker. He is fearless and cannot be intimated. He has most of the answers at his fingertips and should be carefully dealt with. He is not likely to violate any ordinances or laws. He neither smokes or drinks and is of high moral character.” Comments from an FBI Informant who infiltrated the Nation of Islam From TA-NEHISI COATES: We Were Eight Years In Power: An American Tragedy pg. 102.
Those who are threatened by Daniel appeal to the ego of the king in an effort to get to him enact policy that will help sustain empire and ultimately them. (self-centeredness)
Interdict and interdiction are used for very serious prohibitions—more serious than, say, a professor telling the class that texting is forbidden during lectures. During the Middle Ages and Renaissance, an interdict was a sentence imposed by the powerful Catholic Church forbidding a person or place, and sometimes even an entire country, from receiving church privileges or participating in church functions. Interdict now often means "cut off" in a physically forceful way as well; interdictions are usually targeted at either arms supplies or illegal drug shipments.

Those in positions (prefects, satraps, counselors and governors) get the king to sign a interdict/public policy prohibiting acknowledgement and allegiance privately or publicly to anybody but Darius. Toxic Policy
“There are two types of laws: there are just and unjust laws. A just law is a man-made code that squares with the moral law or the law of God. An unjust law is a code that is out of harmony with the moral law. To put it in terms of Saint Thomas Aquinas, an unjust law is a human law that is not rooted in eternal and natural law.

Any law that uplifts the human personality is just. Any law that degrades human personality is unjust. All segregation statues are unjust because segregation distorts the soul and damages the personality. It gives the segregator a false sense of superiority and the segregated a false sense of inferiority.” Letter from a Birmingham Jail
“Given segregation as a factor determining relations, the resources of the environment are made into instruments to enforce the artificial position. Most of the accepted social behavior-patterns assume segregation to be normal-if normal, then correct, if correct, then moral; if moral, then religious. Religion is thus made a defender and guarantor of the presumptions. God, for all practical purposes, is imaged as an elderly, benign white man, seated on a white throne, with bright, white light emanating from his countenance. Angels are blonds and brunets suspended in air around his throne to be his messengers and execute his purposes.” *Jesus and the Disinherited* pg. 43.
When a personal bias, opinion or strong emotion of dislike or distain towards another/others can be morally accepted, institutionalized, legislated and legally carried out in various systems of society (e.g. education, politics, economics etc..) without empathy, compassion and genuine concern and respect for those it perpetually negatively impacts. D. Durr 2016
Daniel is in the world but functions as one who is a citizen connected to a divine other-worldly source of hope, power and liberation. His courage is rooted in his divine connection!
They found him doing what he had always done!

Circumstances will either create distance or drive/draw us to remain committed to what has blessed, sustained and settled us.

We only face certain obstacles not because of disobedience or faithlessness but as a direct result of having remained steadfast.
The king is conflicted on the basis of his respect for Daniel but he has allowed his ego to create a situation that forces him into a quagmire deep conflict. His moral compass is put to the test.
Reflects how God can still use those who create conditions of condemnation to be a part of the deliverance process. (Unknown to them) but proving how much God cares for us.
Although Daniel has been subjected to this situation he still recognizes God’s sovereignty and Darius’s humanity. He is both a central and peripheral prophet:

“The central prophet moved within the power structure, reminding the people of their covenant with God and also consulting kings on military matters and issues of national significance. Peripheral prophets were outsiders who embraced the poor, criticized the monarchy and opposed the war.” Richard Lischer in his book *The Preacher King*. 
One of Theodore Roosevelt’s first controversial actions as president was to invite African-American leader Booker T. Washington to dine with him privately at the White House in October 1901. This recognition solidified Booker T. Washington’s control over the limited political patronage given to African Americans, and raised an outcry among southern Democrats. Roosevelt defended his actions, but did not again openly socialize with Washington or any other African-American leader.
God shows up, spares us, protects us and even promotes us when we stand for God!