Daniel 1

INTRODUCTION

In Daniel 1, Daniel and his friends find themselves living in a culture that does not worship their God. Babylon attempts to reshape them, Daniel resolves to remain faithful, and through it all God is sovereignly at work.

DISCUSSION & APPLICATION

1. **Thinking back to Sunday morning, was there anything from the sermon or from Daniel 1 that especially stood out to you? Why?**

2. **Read Daniel 1:1–7.** Daniel and his friends were surrounded by a culture that was trying to shape the way they thought and lived. Where do you feel that kind of pressure in your own life today?

3. **Read Daniel 1:8.** Daniel was willing to live, learn, and serve in Babylon, but he also knew there were places where he couldn't compromise. How do we know when something in our culture is simply different from us and when it is actually pulling us away from faithfulness to God?

4. **RESOLVE: Read Daniel 1:8 again.** Daniel decided where he would stand before the pressure came. What are some areas of life where it helps to decide ahead of time what faithfulness to God will look like?

5. **GOD GAVE: Read Daniel 1:9 and 17.** Several times in this chapter we are reminded that God was at work even when Daniel couldn't control what was happening around him. Where is it difficult for you right now to trust that God is present and at work?

6. **Read 1 Peter 2:11–12.** Peter describes Christians as “sojourners and exiles” in this world. We know this world is not our ultimate home, but God has placed us here for a reason. **What does it look like for us to faithfully contribute to the places God has put us while still remembering that our ultimate allegiance belongs to Him?**