

Discussion Guide

The Book of Daniel Part 1: The Exile Finds Favor

1. Who is someone that you admire for their faith, someone who has risked their reputation for what is right?
2. Has there ever been a time when you were challenged for your faith by friends, family, co-workers or others? What was it concerning? How did you react and feel? Do you wish you'd responded differently?
3. Read Daniel 1:1-2 and Jeremiah 25:11. Why did God allow the nation of Israel to be taken by Babylon? Do you think knowing this effected Daniel attitude about being a slave in Babylon?
4. Have you ever had the opportunity to be a prophet in the life of someone you disagreed with? Did you ever have any awkward conversations? What was the experience like?
5. In his message, Pastor Tim elaborated on the name changes of Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. How have you let the culture name you? How have you let culture tame you?
6. Pastor Tim said that Daniel "could not control what he was called but he could control what he'd ingest." Aside from diet, what are ways the world attempts to force feed us something that will defile us? How do we respond to it?
7. Read Romans 12:2. How do you pursue the transformation and renewal of your mind? What does this pursuit look like for you on a regular basis?
8. Daniel and his friends were blessed by God with knowledge and intelligence 10X's greater than anyone else in the realm. How does God bless our faithfulness? Is it possible to miss this extra blessing by not choosing to remain faithful?

Next Steps

1. Read the first chapter of the book of Daniel. What do you learn? Commit to journeying through the book.
2. Critics point out problems. Prophets point out solutions. Pray for the ability to be a solution-oriented prophet throughout the week.
3. Continue to engage with Scripture readings, devotional thoughts, and spiritual practices throughout the week.