

DANIEL

DANIEL'S FAITHFULNESS

WORSHIP

Begin by reading Psalm 42, a prayer to God during a time of personal turmoil.

FELLOWSHIP

What is your go-to stress-relieving activity?

DISCUSSION

1. What encouraged you during Sunday's Sermon?

Read Daniel 1:1-7

2. Based on these verses, what do we learn about Daniel and about the Judean people at this time?

3. The chief eunuch sought to re-define Daniel's identity, by changing his name. How does our culture seek to redefine our identity, and what other things does it seek to redefine in opposition to God's intention?

Read Daniel 1:8-16

4. How does Daniel respond to cultural pressure in these verses and how does God affect the situation?

5. What aspects of God's character can strengthen us when we face the pressure to conform? Where, right now, do you see culture pressuring Christians to 'defile' themselves (v. 8)?

Read Daniel 1:17-21

6. How does God use these four teenagers in this tumultuous time? How does this encourage us?

7. Where in your life can you display "wisdom and understanding" so that secular people may be won to the gospel? Be creative.

PRAYER

Share different prayer requests. If you desire, you may pray this to conclude:

Father,

We feel the pressure. Like Daniel, we sense that – more and more - we dwell in a foreign land occupied by people who do not worship You. Give us strength to avoid what may corrupt us spiritually. Give us favor and compassion in the eyes of those who do not know you, that we may flourish in our contexts and that Your name may be glorified. Guide us by Your Spirit so that we may live with a wisdom and understanding that draws others unto You. Father, thank you that this is not our home – that we are headed toward a world far greater and sweeter than this one. Help us to be ready for that day.

*In Jesus name,
Amen.*

