

DANIEL

Community Group Discussion Guide

November 22, 2015

Week 1 | Resolved

1 Daniel

Introduction

If you asked me to list my top five biblical characters, Daniel would definitely be on my list. Here's why! Daniel's the first person I think of who models how to be prepared for the challenging and hard times that are an inevitable part of everyone's life. This four week series shows us how he does this.

Read Daniel chapter one before answering the following questions.

1. What would you say have been the most challenging tests of your own faith in Jesus Christ? What made them particularly difficult to you? Why would you say they tested your faith?
2. Are there ways that you benefited from each one? If yes, how?
3. Is there someone in your life who strengthened your own faith by how they responded to hard times in their life? What did you see in them?
4. What occurred in Israel and Judah that led to the event described in Daniel chapter one, verses one and two? To answer this check 1 and 2 Kings.
5. Who are the key characters in Daniel chapter one? How did each one affect the lives of the other people in this chapter?
6. Biblical scholars believe that Daniel and his three friends were somewhere between the ages of 12 and 15 when they were taken to Babylon. How would you feel if you were their parents? What would give you hope for their spiritual life in a pagan city like Babylon?
7. Why do you think Nebuchadnezzar took young men like this to Babylon and put them through a three year training in Babylonian "language of literature?"
8. Where did Daniel and his three friends draw the line in what they were willing to do? Why do you think they drew it here?
9. What do we learn from their example when faced with challenges to our own commitment to follow Jesus?