



Sunday, February 26, 2017 | Small Group Discussion notes

Introduction: What are some ways in which your world could change into something you hadn't planned in one day?

1. Read Daniel 1. In your own words, how did Daniel end up in Babylon? What was going on around him? What were the possible paths for Daniel and his faith? Which path would be the easiest? The hardest? The best?
2. Daniel was committed to keeping a level of purity during the three years he is in training. What do the Babylonians do to try to "break him" from his old thinking, loyalty, and lifestyle? What are the kinds of things that seem to wear us down in our commitments?
3. Read verses 8-9. The chief official had already changed the young men's names. Why did he do this? How was this an attempt to get these Jewish boys to fit in to their new culture? What might be a parallel in our society today?
4. In verses 8-9, what part did Daniel play in not eating the royal food and wine? What part did God play? Can you think of a time when you were "shown favor" due to God's work?
5. What compelled Daniel to not defile himself? What was in his beliefs that empowered him to do so? Is there anything lacking in our beliefs when our behavior is not God honoring?
6. What resolutions need to be in place for us to make godly decisions in tough times and tough places?
7. In verses 17- 20, how was God faithful to these young men when they were resolute in their faith toward him? How has God revealed himself faithful to you in tough times?

Bless/Love/Abide: What do you need to do this week to abide deep enough in Christ that you can be resolute in tough places?