

# ***G R O W T H N O T E S***

*Scripture Text:*

**Daniel Chapters 1 & 2**  
**(Key Verse: Daniel 1:8)**

**SERMON SERIES: Words That Change Reality**

**Message:**

**“N O!”**

## ***TODAY'S SCRIPTURE TEXT***

***Daniel 1: KJV:*** <sup>8</sup> But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.

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***NLT:*** <sup>8</sup> But Daniel was determined not to defile himself by eating the food and wine given to them by the king. He asked the chief of staff for permission not to eat these unacceptable foods.

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## ***BACKGROUND OF TODAY'S MESSAGE***

- Words that change reality—based on the simple belief that WORDS SHAPE THOUGHTS—THOUGHTS SHAPE ACTIONS—ACTIONS SHAPE BEHAVIOR—and—BEHAVIOR SHAPES OUR DESTINY!
- And today we wanna focus on the word—“NO!”
- No is not necessarily negative!
- It's not necessarily a negative word;
- There are sometimes that “no” is a positive word;
- No is an important word;
- No is a word that can change your life;
- No can be an action word;
- “No” is an important word!
- No is an action word!
- No can be a positive word that can change your life!

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- AND—there are many times that we must—as people of faith—say no!
- We have to say no if what’s being planned—what’s being done—what’s being thought about is not in God’s will!
- No!—if it’s not appropriate or I have to compromise my integrity—or discard my personal dignity!
- No!—if what’s being proposed is unwise—absurd—meaningless—and unwarranted!
- No!—if something is silly, stupid, and useless!
- No!—if it contradicts my humanity—or is outside my specificity!
- No!—if it denies my ethnicity—or impairs my immortality!
- No!—if it is self-destructive—and self-defeating!
- No!—if it’s inhumane—and inconsiderate of others!
- No!—if it has no spiritual anointing—no Scriptural reference—and no useful purpose to uplift people—glorify God—and exalt the name of Jesus!

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- *Daniel's Life Was On A Wonderful Trajectory—BUT Things Did Not Turn Out As Planned!*
- *The people of God ran into trouble!*
- *All they had was a promise from God!*
- *And the truth about life—and the truth about the life of faith is that sometimes all you have is a promise from God!*
- *You don't have a trace of evidence—but just a promise—that says that no weapon formed against you can prosper!*
- *Just a promise that says—“He that hath begun a good work in you will perform in until the day of Jesus Christ—and He will!”*
- *Just a promise that encourages—“Be not weary in well-doing for you'll reap—in due season—IF—you faint not!*
- *Just a promise that says—“They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength—they shall mount up on wings like eagles—they shall run and not be weary—walk and not faint!*

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## ***THINGS I SHOULD SAY NO TO!***

### ***1. “I SHOULD SAY NO—I’LL NEVER STOP GROWING!” James 1:8***

- *He grew first in faith!*
- *His grew in diplomacy! – Daniel 2:14*
- *He grew in influence! – Daniel 2:48*

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### ***2. “I SHOULD SAY NO—I’LL NEVER STOP CARING!” – Romans 12:21***

*In Romans, Chapter 12, Verse 21, the Apostle wrote—“Do not be overcome by evil—but overcome evil with good.”*

- *Caring about the glory of God!*
- *Caring about other people!*

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### 3. ***“I SHOULD SAY NO—I’LL NOT BE DISTRACTED!”***

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### 4. ***“I SHOULD SAY NO—I’LL NOT BE COMPLACENT!” – Romans 12:11***

*In Romans 12:11, Paul said, “...Never be lacking in zeal—but keep your spiritual fervor serving the Lord!*

#### ***CONCLUSION***

- Somebody doesn’t think you have the power—the tools—the talent—the support to pull it off!
- Somebody here is stuck in a set of circumstances—struggling and scuffling trying to get out because you’ve not tapped the power that you already have!
- BUT—you’ve got grace!
- You’ve got mercy!
- You’ve got the power of the Holy Ghost!
- You can handle any challenge!
- Manage any nightmare!

- Change any situation!
- Because—that one word no—can change your life!

*My Notes:* \_\_\_\_\_

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