

Episode #2 - Negotiating for Change

Read together Daniel 1: 6-21.

1. Why did the Hebrew young men not want to eat the amazing food provided by the King?
2. What was the alternative proposal that the young men proposed? How was this perceived by those running the “training program?” What was the ultimate outcome?
3. What risks were they taking in negotiating? Note that they did not demand, pontificate, claim special privilege, they just asked for an alternative, competitive plan.
4. How might you employ this tactic in your work environment when an issue arises around your values and principles?
5. Reading Exodus 20: 1-3, why did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego choose this moment to draw a line in the sand? Imagine the courage that it took to say what they said to Nebuchadnezzar in 3:16-18. By saying “your majesty,” how are they trying to be respectful but still assertive? How did God deliver them? How did the King respond? How did it affect their career?
6. Have you ever had to take a stand that jeopardized your career or social standing because of your faith? How did it turn out?
7. Have you ever read “Orbiting the Giant Hairball” by Gordon MacKenzie? Knowing the story behind the corporate structure of Hallmark, what was the wisdom of MacKenzie?
8. How have you orbited a “giant hairball” without realizing you were doing so? What strategies have you employed?