

# Exiled Kingdom

TEXT: Daniel 1

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



- Walk for Life, for Your Choice Resource Center, this Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup>. Go to [www.friendsofycrc.org](http://www.friendsofycrc.org) for more information.
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### LEADING OFF...

1. Talk about a difficult transition you've had to make in life?
2. How does maturity lead us to be more comfortable with our own identity?
3. What about security in your spiritual identity? How do we often times wrestle with identity as citizens of the Kingdom of Christ?

### READ THIS DEFINITION:

The Kingdom of God: *where the reign of Christ is present through the people of Christ, empowered by the Spirit of Christ.*

### **BIG IDEA: Kingdom Christians are consistent in their citizenship.**

#### Read Daniel 1:1-2

4. These are very dark days for God's people. How do you see God's sovereignty in the first two verses?
5. Why do we need to be reminded of God's sovereignty today, in light of any suffering we might be facing, or chaos we see in the world?
6. Knowing God never abandons His people, how are God's people today to be pushing back against the kingdom of darkness?
7. Talk about why it is important during these dark times to rely on what we know to be true, not what we feel to be true.

#### Read Daniel 1:3-7

8. How is Nebuchadnezzar trying to reprogram these young men?
9. How do we sometimes wrongly view citizenship?
10. What is the correct way for Christians to view citizenship?

#### Read Daniel 1:8-14

11. Why was Daniel so resolved to not obey the king's orders?
12. What was Daniel's defining ethic?
13. Discuss this statement: "when we rest in our kingdom citizenship, hard decisions become easy decisions".

#### Read Daniel 1:15-21

14. How is Daniel foreshadowing Christ? What are similarities?

**WRAPPING UP.. read Matthew 22:37-40**

15. How do we keep God's law?
16. How do these laws mark the kingdom of Christ?
17. Applying these laws, ask these questions...
  - Are you living as if your allegiance belongs to Christ more than anyone or anything else?
  - Do you love your neighbor selflessly?
18. In light of Jesus and Daniel's examples, how can we be consistent in our citizenship?