



## **CHOOSING TO CHEAT**

Margin Pt 3

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**Margin:** *Is the space between our current pace – and our limits.*

### **DANIEL 1**

(v. 3) *Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, chief of his court officials, to bring into the king's service some of the Israelites from the royal family and the nobility –*

(v. 4) *...young men without any physical defect, handsome, showing aptitude for every kind of learning, well informed, quick to understand, and qualified to serve in the king's palace. He was to teach them the language and literature of the Babylonians.*

(v. 5) *The king assigned them a daily amount of food and wine from the king's table. They were to be trained for three years, and after that they were to enter the king's service.*

(v. 6) *Among those who were chosen were some from Judah: Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah.*

(v. 8) *But Daniel **RESOLVED** (made up his mind) – not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way.*

- **Who in your life – feels CHEATED?** \_\_\_\_\_

When we ask our families to be understanding – we are saying:

- You're important –
- But **THIS** - is **MORE** important

**ROCK illustration** – *“Just hold on – soon it's going to change.”*

### **MORAL:**

- We've got to learn to cheat at the right time and in the right places.

- **HOME** - is never the right place.
  - You don't have time to do everything.
  - You're going to cheat SOMEWHERE.
  - Chose wisely – where you cheat.

#### **APPLICATION:**

1. Daniel **made up his mind.**

(v. 8) *But Daniel made up his mind – not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way.*

(v. 9) **NOW GOD** – had caused the official to show favor and compassion to Daniel.

2. Daniel **factored God into his life.**