

Sermon Notes

Daniel 1 Week 1 Pastor Ricky

What does it look like to live faithfully in a foreign land?

How do our lives and our faithfulness measure up?

Lesson 1 The world wants you to conform

BUT

Paul writes in Romans 12:2 “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”

Lesson 2 Engage without conforming

Daniel demonstrates how to engage without compromising.

Daniel 1:8 (ESV): But Daniel **resolved** that he would not defile himself with the king’s food, or with the wine that he drank. Therefore he asked the chief of the eunuchs to allow him not to defile himself.

What is the king’s food for you?

We have to discern what that is for us. What is it that culture is pressuring you into that is compromising your Christian foundation as a Christ follower. What is that?

Lesson 3 Daniel chose not to Despair

Daniel trusted God had a plan and would bring about his purposes

Do we trust God’s plan, God’s purposes?

Lesson 4 Daniel and his friends are a picture of what it means to be a modern day Christ follower:

Exile is a theme of scripture, sojourners and exiles. It is a spiritual theme, you and I are exiles in sort of a way.

1 Peter 2:11 Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul.

Philippians 3:20 But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,

Sometimes we confuse loving others with wanting to be liked by others.

Daniel wasn't concerned with being liked by the head Eunuch, he was concerned with honoring God.

You will not take a stand for Christ in the future unless you start taking a stand for him now.

And with that we must teach and train up a generation of mature competent, discerning, critically thinking, truth seeking, Jesus loving, Spirit empowered, God fearing disciples who will stand firm in the faith and will not grow weary. And it starts with us right here, right now.