

God has a reason for the season you're in right now.

So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. This is truly the way to worship him. Romans 12:1 MSG

Be faithful in your now.

- **Decide in advance to have purity and integrity in your work.** (Daniel 1:1-8)

But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way. Daniel 1:8

- **Fully engage in your work and your work environment.** (Daniel 1:17-20)

The king talked with them, and he found none equal to Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah; so they entered the king's service.²⁰ In every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king questioned them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanterers in his whole kingdom. Daniel 1:19-20

Live a God-first life.

- **Do the right thing even when it hurts.** (Daniel 6:1-28)

Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before. Daniel 6:10

God has placed you where you are to point people to Jesus.

Then King Darius wrote to all the nations and peoples of every language in all the earth...²⁶ "I issue a decree that in every part of my kingdom people must fear and reverence the God of Daniel. For he is the living God and he endures forever; his kingdom will not be destroyed, his dominion will never end."²⁷ He rescues and he saves; he performs signs and wonders in the heavens and on the earth. He has rescued Daniel from the power of the lions." Daniel 6:25-27

Let's Talk About It

God has a purpose and plan for each of us, not only on Sunday mornings, but in our everyday, ordinary lives and workplaces. While you may not understand *why*, God has a purpose and a reason for the season you're in. Daniel was faithful where God placed him. He worked with purity and integrity, he fully engaged in his work and he did the right thing even when it hurt. As Daniel lived a *God-first* life in his work, God was with him, God blessed him and God worked through him.

Romans 12:1 MSG; Daniel 1:1-8, 17-20; Colossians 3:23; 1 Corinthians 10:31-33; Daniel 6:1-10, 25-28

Discussion questions:

- You were created to make a difference! Our church is growing, and we'd love for you to be a part! We especially have need in **Grace Kidz and parking**. To learn more, complete the Make a Difference card. It's on the Grace Honolulu app!
- Which part of the message impacted or challenged you?
- Read Daniel 1:1-8. Are you currently in a work or other situation where you find yourself wondering, "Why?" When you find yourself where you may not want to be, how does Daniel's example encourage you to be faithful where you are?
- Pastor Gregg gave three things to help us be faithful in the now – doing your work with purity and integrity, fully engaging in your work, and doing the right thing even when it hurts. What would this look like in your work or school environment?
- Read Daniel 6:10. Daniel was bold and open about his faith, but not obnoxious. What would this look like for you in your workplace, community or at school? Daniel's conviction was built on his knees. How could prayer help you develop a more intimate relationship with God and deeper conviction?

Take a Step

- Be faithful in the *now* and make a decision to live a *God-first* life. Identify any area of your life where God isn't "first" and take practical steps to make him your first priority in all you do.
- Take God with you to work again this week.

Here's My Prayer

God, thank You for the place and season You've placed me in right now. Help me to live with integrity, work with excellence, and put You first in everything—even when it's costly. Use my ordinary, everyday life to point others to You, and may my faithfulness today become part of someone else's story of salvation tomorrow. In Jesus' name, amen.