

D6 EveryDay Parent Page

Date | **April 23, 2023** Family Theme | **Standing for What Is Right**
Study Text | **Daniel 1:1-21**

Objective: Family members choose to follow God's ways rather than the ways of the ungodly culture around us.

How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible: The events in the book of Daniel took place during the time when God's people had been taken into captivity by the Babylonians and later the Medo-Persians from 605 BC to 536 BC.

Bible Basics: Memorize the names and order of books 32-35 of the Old Testament (Jonah, Micah, Nahum, and Habakkuk) along with family members.

Read the Word: Daniel 1:1-21

Disciple Your Kids:

Help your children and grandchildren understand that we will sometimes have to choose between what pleases God and what the culture wants us to do. Glorify God by doing what pleases Him.



Key Truth: The World Wants to Squeeze Believers Into Its Mold (Daniel 1:1-7)

- True to God's warnings in Scriptures such as Leviticus 26:33-39, Deuteronomy 4:27, and Deuteronomy 28:64, God allowed the ungodly Babylonians to defeat His chosen people when they turned away from Him into sin and idolatry (2 Kings 24:1-4). Nebuchadnezzar took some of the items the Jews had dedicated for the worship of the true God and placed them in the temple of his false god (verses 1-2).
- Babylon's policy was to take the best and brightest from the conquered territories and immerse them into Babylonian language, culture, and training. Then, these young people served in the Babylonian administrative service. Such was the case with Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. They were to be given Babylonian names, educated in the Babylonian culture, and then examined by the king (verses 3-7).



Key Truth: Believers Do What Pleases God Instead of What the Culture Dictates (Daniel 1:8-16)

- There was something in the menu that caused Daniel to believe it would not please God for him to eat it. So, he asked the official in charge of their training to allow them to eat something different. God granted Daniel and his friends favor with the official. They would eat differently for ten days, and then see how they looked. God honored Daniel and after the ten days, they looked better than those who ate the king's food. We should be respectful to those in authority by making appeals instead of demands, as Daniel did, and offer reasonable solutions (verses 8-16).



Key Truth: God Uses Believers for His Glory When They Choose to Honor Him (Daniel 1:17-21)

- God worked in the four young Israelites in a way that went beyond their natural abilities. They had honored God, and God in return honored them. The king himself examined each one at the end of their training. He found them far better equipped than all the others, and Daniel understood dreams and visions (verses 17-21).

Discussion Starters

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with family members this week. Questions in **bold** will be good to use with elementary age children.

- Why does the lost world want believers to be like them?
- How can believers become more like Christ and less like the world?
- **When is it difficult to do what pleases God instead of what the culture wants?**
- What could I do this week to become more like Christ and less like the world?
- In what way could I please and honor God this week instead doing what the culture dictates?
- **How did Daniel and his friends stand for what was right?**
- **When have you had to stand for what is right? When might you need to?**

Everyday Extras

Give your younger children a paper plate, scissors, glue, and a stack of old magazines. Ask them to cut out pictures of the fruits and vegetables that Daniel and his friends ate instead of eating the Babylonian feasts. They can glue on their plates the ones that they would eat for dinner. Remind your children that Daniel and his friends wanted to please God with their food choices. They asked respectfully to be allowed to continue eating like Jewish people were supposed to eat, even though they were far away from home. Even though they were young, they wanted to obey God.

Making good choices begins ahead of time. Ask your children to help you plan daily menus, including one meatless meal this week. Decide now on some choices about their food this week, including eating fruits and vegetables!

Preschool Highlights for SQUARE 1 & ROUND 2

Today your child learned that a bad man named Haman tricked the king into signing a law to kill the Jewish people. God gave Esther the job of saving her people. It wasn't easy, but she was able to get the king to make a new law which let the Jewish people fight against those who tried to kill them. God had a job for Esther and **God Has a Job for Me.**