

SMALL GROUP Q'S

When In Babylon ...

April 17, 2016

Daniel 1:3-21

- 1.) What is your naturally tendency for cultural engagement – ISOLATE, FIGHT, or ASSIMILATE? Why do you think this is?
- 2.) What are the potential weaknesses of your approach from Question 1? Share a situation from your life in which you have seen this unfold.
- 3.) Will shared general differences between generations in their approach to and experience with issues of cultural engagement. What insight from the “other generation” is most helpful to you? How can we learn from each other better?
- 4.) Describe a time when you remember receiving from someone else the message “The path to the things that are really valuable is to be like us.” How did that make you feel? What struggles did you have in responding to them?
- 5.) Why do you think Daniel decided not to eat/drink the king’s food/wine? Since the Bible doesn’t tell us specifically the reason why he made this decision, what does that teach us about the importance of our distinctive identity?

HINT: Remember that this shows us Daniel is not giving us a simple list of Do’s and Don’t’s but rather a firm commitment to loyalty to YHWH, not Nebuchadnezzar.

- 6.) Where in your life do you feel you have opportunity to live out of your distinctive identity in Christ? What are the hardest parts of this or the potential sacrifices you may have to make?
- 7.) How does this passage remind us that the “lasting blessing” that motivates Daniel’s stand cannot be a few good days in Nebuchadnezzar’s court but rather must be God himself and being eternally his?
- 8.) Will said, “God is so valuable that knowing him is a greater treasure than having all the treasures of the world.” How have you experienced that to be true? How can we help remind each other of this when life is hard? When have you been tempted to think, “I’ll follow Christ in that area later”?
- 9.) Read Hebrews 11:24-26. It’s easy to tell yourself you’ll follow Christ later. While the cost of following Christ will continue going up, how must we continue to treasure even the reproach of God, as Moses did?



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