

# THE Story

## Lesson 27 Chapter 18 Daniel in Exile...Part 1 p.249-256

1. When Daniel and his three friends became "prisoners of war", they were pressured to change many things as part of their "training" process. (p.249-250) What concessions were they willing to make and where did they draw the line and say no?

Why do you think they drew the line where they did?

Think about a time in your life where you have had to say, "I draw the line here and I will not cross it."

How do Peter's words in I Peter 2:11-12 apply to Daniel's story and to us?

*<sup>11</sup>Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. <sup>12</sup>Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.*

2. When Daniel heard of King Nebuchadnezzar's seemingly impossible request (p.250-252), he asked his three friends to pray and seek the face of God with him. Why is prayer the right response in this critical moment?

Why is it important for us to ask others to pray with us and for us?

3. Once God answered the prayers of Daniel and his friends, Daniel lifted up an amazing prayer of praise (p.252). What do we learn about Daniel's understanding of God in this prayer and how might this shape the way we pray?

4. As Daniel explains the king's dream and its interpretation, he is careful to not take credit but give all the glory to God. (p.252-253)

In what ways can we be tempted to take credit for what God has done?

How can we give Him glory instead?

5. The note on page 253 gives a description of the image that Nebuchadnezzar saw in his dream. What divine purposes did the dream serve in relation to the king, Daniel and his friends and to us?

6. After King Nebuchadnezzar built a statue of gold and ordered everyone to bow before it, what threefold accusation was brought against Daniel's friends, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego? (p. 255)

Consider how subtly it was worded to stir the king's anger.

7. What enabled Daniel's three friends to stand against the king's order?

What is significant about their words, "...the God we serve is able to deliver us from it...**but even if he does not**...we will not serve your gods or worship the image"?

8. When Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego ended up in the blazing furnace, they discovered they were not alone. (p.256) Who might that 4th person in the furnace have been?

Think of a tough time in your life when God "showed up" in a very special way....

9. As you review this portion of God's inspired Word, what truths do you learn about our humanity....sins to avoid & examples to follow

about our God... His promises to claim & His character to embrace