

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

### A Call to Excellence (Daniel #1)

Week of March 10, 2019

While this Discussion Guide is intended for use in a Riverwood Growth Group, it can be used personally as well. To get the most from these questions, we suggest you take 10-15 minutes to read, think, and pray through this Guide before participating in your Growth Group. The point of this guide is to not just "get through the questions" (there's no quiz at the end!) but to pursue Jesus and grow spiritually.

### ICEBREAKER (Optional)

Which of the four seasons is your favorite? Why?

### DISCUSSION

#### Read Daniel 1:1-7

1. What about Daniel's circumstances would have made it tempting for him to abandon his trust and belief in God?

#### Read Daniel 1:8-16

2. Daniel could have chosen complete rebellion against the king, yet he chose to wisely and respectfully negotiate out of faith. He did this without letting go of his values or violating God's laws. In these verses, how did God help Daniel and bless his efforts?



3. a. On Sunday, Luke brought up the story of Joseph as found in Genesis 37-50. From what you remember, how are Daniel and Joseph similar?

- b. How was Godliness displayed in their lives, in spite of their situations?

### MAKING IT PERSONAL

4. Jesus is our greatest example in difficult and unfair circumstances, as He lived through them without sin. We can look to Him as we navigate our own lives, as well as learning from the story of Daniel. In light of Daniel 1, how can you personally live faithfully, despite an ungodly or difficult influence in your life?
5. Share about a time in your past when you were in need of wisdom and God granted it to you.

### MEMORY VERSE

*"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. And God gave Daniel favor and compassion in the sight of the chief of the eunuchs..." (Daniel 1:8-9)*

### PRAYER

Praise God for His ultimate control over even the hearts of kings, and that He gives provision in undesirable circumstances. Ask Him to help us be wise and display Godly integrity, just as He did for Daniel.



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