

Keys to Discernment & Discretion

Insights from Daniel 1:8-21 (Living Rooted in Babylon pt 2)

Pastor Bob Johnson, September 20th, 2020

1. God's Presence & Permission (Dan. 1:1-2)

2. Neb's Plan & Patience (Dan. 1:3-7)

- Isolation
- Indoctrination
- Identity Daniel = "God is my judge"

He did not retaliate when he was insulted, nor threaten revenge when he suffered. He left his case in the hands of God, who always judges fairly. 1 Peter 2:23 (NLT)

- Imitation

The king assigned them a daily amount of food and wine from the king's table. They were to be trained for three years, and after that they were to enter the king's service. Daniel 1:5 (NIV)

3. Dan's P _____ & P _____

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. 9 Now God had caused the official to show favor and sympathy to Daniel, 10 but the official told Daniel, "I am afraid of my lord the king, who has assigned your food and drink. Why should he see you looking worse than the other young men your age? The king would then have my head because of you." Daniel 1:8-10 (NIV)

Daniel then said to the guard whom the chief official had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, 12 "Please test your servants for ten days: Give us nothing but vegetables to eat and water to drink. 13 Then compare our appearance with that of the young men who eat the royal food, and treat your servants in accordance with what you see." 14 So he agreed to this and tested them for ten days. Daniel 1:11-14 (NIV)

Influence Insight:

_____ we stand firm is as important as choosing to.

In your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, 16 keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

1 Peter 3:15-16 (NIV)

If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Romans 12:18 (NIV)

Through patience a ruler can be persuaded, and a gentle tongue can break a bone. Proverbs 25:15 (NIV)

4. God's P _____ & P _____

To these four young men God gave knowledge and understanding of all kinds of literature and learning. And Daniel could understand visions and dreams of all kinds. Daniel 1:17 (NIV)

Keys To Increasing Godly Sensitivity:

S _____ God's Wisdom including S _____
and live a S _____ life.

(James 1:5, Proverbs 2:2-5, Hebrews 5:13-14, 2 Chronicles 16:9)

Four ways to view "doing the right things":

Pharisee	Failure	Rebel	Relier
"I _____"	"I _____"	"I _____"	"I _____"
self-effort	withdrawal	refusal	abide
attempt the rules	fear the rules	forget the rules	humbled by rules
pride	discouragement	defiance	dependence
try harder	depression	consequences	fruitfulness
self-righteous	guilt	despair	assurance

By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life. We have received all of this by coming to know him, the one who called us to himself by means of his marvelous glory and excellence. 2 Peter 1:3 (NLT)

And Daniel remained there until the first year of King Cyrus. Daniel 1:21 (NIV)

Influence Insight:

Positive influence increases when we decide to ...

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