



Going Deeper Daniel 1:8-21

1. “But Daniel resolved that he would not defile himself” (Daniel 1:8). There are fewer more powerful descriptions in the Bible than this description. Read Romans 12:1-2 as a supplement.

Where does our culture want to most strategically defile the people of God? Where have we compromised and “conformed to the pattern of this world” in ways that are disturbing?

2. Leadership Matters!! Go back and read the story of King Josiah (2 Kings 22-23). One of the great teaching points of the book of Daniel is that godly leadership can “outlive itself” by investing and training the next generation. What stories of faithful discipleship being passed to the next generation encourage you?

If the seed of Daniel’s spiritual heritage was planted 20-30 years before his life how can we (or you) better plant the spiritual foundation for the next generation? Are there SPECIFIC steps you feel like you should take to better invest in the next generation (your kids, your grandkids, your children’s friends, etc.)?

3. Edwards Resolutions mentioned during the Wednesday teaching:

Resolved: I will DO whatever I think will be most to God's glory; and my own good, profit and pleasure, for as long as I live. I will do all these things without any consideration of the time they take.

Resolved: to do whatever I understand to be my duty and will provide the most good and benefit to mankind in general. Resolved to do this, whatever difficulties I encounter, and no matter how many I experience or how severe they may be.

Resolved: Never lose one moment of time; but seize the time to use it in the most profitable way I possibly can.

Resolved: To live with all my might, ...while I do live.

What do you feel convicted and resolved about? Have you experienced Christ's transforming grace that you feel RESOLVED in your response to obey regardless of the cost?

4. The repeated phrase in Daniel 1 is "and God gave" (1:2, 1:9, 1:17). The Scriptures paint a picture of the Sovereign God is OVER ALL even small details of our lives. How would your life change if you really believed (and practically acted) that God is sovereign over all?