

8. Reflect further on the "test" Daniel pursued in 1:8-16. What would be an example of how some similar testing would be appropriate for you to pursue in your own life?

9. Notice the action attributed to God in verses 9 and 17. In its context here, what does this communicate about God's grace, His gifting for His people, and His sovereign purposes?

10. What can you learn from Daniel's attitude and actions about how to respond when your biblical values are challenged?

**Let's Pray:**

For our missionaries:

*Mike King - Youth for Christ, Fargo, North Dakota*

Pray for Mike as he continues to minister/share Christ with the youth in Fargo, ND, that they would surrender their lives to Jesus.

Ask God to give you courage and wisdom to obey him when you feel pressured to compromise.

# Sermon Notes

"The Battle for Your Identity, Thinking, and Allegiance"

Daniel 1:3-21

May 10, 2015

**Introduction:**

1. The \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Daniel's \_\_\_\_\_.

3. God's \_\_\_\_\_.

## Conclusion:

# Growth Group Homework

For the week of 5-10-15

Questions adapted from Daniel: Life Change Series, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 2013, pp. 15-23; Douglas Connelly, Daniel, Spiritual Living in a Secular World, Intervarsity Press, Downers Grove, IL, 2000, pp. 10-12.

## Getting Started:

1. Daniel was torn from his home and family when he was a teenager. He and a few other young men were taken eight hundred miles away to Babylon. They were enrolled in an intensive three-year training program designed to transform them into loyal Babylonian bureaucrats. A crisis of conscience erupted when the first meal was served.

Describe your own transition into adult responsibility or a time when you had to let go of someone you loved. What new adjustments did you have to make?

## Digging Deeper:

2. Read Daniel 1. What are the most significant details we learn about Daniel and his three fellow exiles in 1:3-7?

3. What specific tactics were used to give Daniel and his friends a new Babylonian orientation (1:3-7)?
4. How do these tactics parallel the pressures Christians face today in a secular society?
5. We read in Daniel 1:8 of what "Daniel resolved" to do. Think about his example in this. What are some important resolutions that you have made in your Christian life? What need might there be now in your life for a further resolution of some kind?
6. How can Christians today determine which activities we will engage in and which we won't?
7. How would you summarize what Daniel was trying to "prove" by the kind of testing he pursued in 1:8-16?