

CALLED TO COUNTER-CULTURAL LIVING

DANIEL 1 | WEEK ONE

PREPARING FOR THE SESSION

Read Daniel 1

MEMORIZE

"And in every matter of wisdom and understanding concerning which the king inquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters that were in all his kingdom."

—Daniel 1:20

ASK YOURSELF

What your discipline would look like if it were more friendly to Christian views?

What topics would you research if your advisor supported you and gave you freedom to explore the intersection of faith and academics?

"I would suggest that late-modern ways of thinking often frame our lives and our religious beliefs and practices far more than we may realize. Specifically, an understanding of the spiritual realm that views it as either a realm of imagination or a realm that is malleable and open to individual taste and will generally frames religious and spiritual experience and belief."

—Richard Horner

"What Frames What?"

DANIEL 1:1-7

1. What do verses 3-4 say about the youths taken to stand in the king's palace? Would you say God had prepared them years ago for this assignment?

DANIEL 1:11-16

4. How do you account for their better health and appearance?

DANIEL 1:8-10

2. What is Daniel doing by taking this stand and making his request?

DANIEL 1:17-21

5. What do you notice about the performance of the Israelites? If we viewed our academic discipline through God's lens as Creator/Redeemer, should we expect Christian grads to be 10 times better as a result?

3. What stands out to you more, Daniel's request or the eunuch's agreement to permit it? Has someone ever gone to bat for you?

6. How are we trusting God to walk with us through the challenges of our graduate study program? How are we guarding our minds and hearts so we won't defile ourselves with the world's food?