



## CALVARY CHAPEL

### Protected in an Ungodly Culture

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*John 17:15-17* My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. **16** They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. **17** Sanctify them by the truth; Your word is truth.

- How can we be in the world but not have the world in us?

*Daniel 1:1-7* In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. **2** And the Lord delivered Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, along with some of the articles from the temple of God. These he carried off to the temple of his god in Babylonia and put in the treasure house of his god. **3** Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, chief of his court officials, to bring into the king's service some of the Israelites from the royal family and the nobility— 4 young men without any physical defect, handsome, showing aptitude for every kind of learning, well informed, quick to understand, and qualified to serve in the king's palace. He was to teach them the language and literature of the Babylonians. **5** 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. **6** Among those who were chosen were some from Judah: Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah. **7** The chief official gave them new names: to Daniel, the name Belteshazzar; to Hananiah, Shadrach; to Mishael, Meshach; and to Azariah, Abednego.

- Daniel = God is my judge, changed to Belteshazzar = Bel Protect the king
- Hannaniah = The LORD is gracious, changed to Shadrach = Command of Aku
- Mishael = Who is like God?, changed to Meshach = Who is like Aku
- Azariah = The LORD is my help, changed to Abed-Nego = Servant of Nego
- 1. Receive our identity in Christ. Don't allow the world to define it.

*Daniel 1:8* 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.

- 2. Parents, have a vital role in discipling their children to follow Jesus.
- **3 Types of homes:**
- Parent-centered

- Child-centered
- Christ-centered

***Daniel 1:9-10** Now God had caused the official to show favor and compassion 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."*

***Psalms 84:11** For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor; no good thing does He withhold from those whose walk is blameless.*

***Psalms 118:8-9** It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in humans. It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes.*

***Daniel 1:11-14** 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.*

- 3. Let our desires please the Lord

***Hebrews 11:24-26** By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward.*

***Daniel 1:15-16** At the end of the ten days they looked healthier and better nourished than any of the young men who ate the royal food. **16** So the guard took away their choice food and the wine they were to drink and gave them vegetables instead.*

- **Discipleship (either for Christ or "The World") involves our:**

- Our Identity
- Our Desires
- Our Knowledge

***Daniel 1:17** 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.*

- 4. Seek God for favor, wisdom, understanding and spiritual revelation.

***Romans 12:2** Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.*

***Daniel 1:18-21** At the end of the time set by the king to bring them into his service, the chief official*

presented them to Nebuchadnezzar. **19** The king talked with them, and he found none equal to Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah; so they entered the king's service. **20** In every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king questioned them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanterers in his whole kingdom. **21** And Daniel remained there until the first year of King Cyrus.

- 5. Respect and obey authority without compromising faith in Christ

***Romans 13:1-2** Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves.*

- Call or text **YES** to 321.574.6970 if you have chosen to accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior.

All Bible references are from the New International Version (NIV) unless otherwise noted. NLT = New Living Translation.