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Sept 13, 2026



RIVERSIDE
CHURCH

Your story matters.

**BIG LAKE
BUFFALO
SAUK RAPIDS**

Message Notes



Your group matters.

DISCUSSION GUIDE

- Icebreaker -

What, if anything, have you ever learned from your enemies?

1. Read **Daniel 1:1-4**. How was God justified in handing Judah over to King Nebuchadnezzar? Who does God discipline and why does He? (See **Hebrews 12:4-11**)
2. Share about a time you didn't belong or fit in and suffered for it. How did that affect your relationship with God and your witness to others?
3. Pastor Kyle said, "Sin is real and so are its consequences. Evil is real and will try to destroy us. Let's be careful not to confuse our consequences with God's character." Read the section "It's Not an Adventure Story" (pp. 22-24); **1 Peter 4:12-19**; **John 10:10**; **Hebrews 11:36-40**; and **2 Peter 3:8-9**. What unhealthy perspectives and beliefs about God, His timing of deliverance, and of suffering, have you heard or believed that contradict these verses and Osborn's thoughts?
4. Consider **1 Peter 4:12-19**. Osborn in, *Thriving In Babylon* (p. 27) listed three qualities Daniel embodied that God used, "to grant Daniel favor in the eyes of his captors and to propel him to position of great influence." How do Christ followers stand tall in a place and among a people, we don't really belong to?
5. Wouldn't it be easier to just go along with the culture? Why do you remain faithful to God amid suffering?
6. From *Thriving In Babylon*, read the section, "When the Lord is Behind Everything, It Changes Everything" (pp. 33-34). Pastor Kyle said, "In our exile, we're not alone, we're not forgotten. God is so real and God is reworking all the chaos in our lives...God will rework all of it for our good and His glory." Daniel had the prophets to assure him of this. Who did Pastor Kyle say we have as our assurance? Can you think of any scriptures that point this out? If you can't, start with **John 3:16** and **14:6**.
7. Pastor Kyle said, "the call to Stand Tall comes with at least two challenges." The first, "is to say 'YES!' to Jesus and begin a real dynamic relationship with Him." The second is to, "go all in on the All Church Spiritual Journey and be fully engaged for the next 7 weeks." Which of these two challenges do you need to act on and how will you do it?



"Daniel's Long Walk"

Pastor Kyle Asmus | Sept 13, 2026

HOW DO WE EXIST WHEN WHERE WE ARE IS NOT OUR PLACE AND NOT OUR PEOPLE?

Do we shrink back or do we Stand Tall?

Daniel 1:1-4

On Daniel's Long Walk to Babylon... I think there are at least three thoughts he had shaping his _____ that can also shape _____ exile.

1. _____ is real and so are its _____.
(Daniel 1:1-2a; Leviticus 26:14-5, 31-33)
2. _____ is real and will try to _____ us.
(John 10:10)
3. _____ is real and will _____ it all.
(Jeremiah 29:10; Jeremiah 32:37; Deuteronomy 30:3-5)

Go _____ on the All-Church Spiritual Journey!

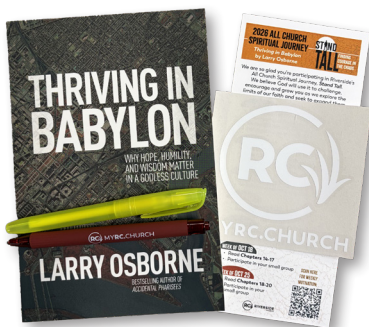


Tell us about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey!

App: Message Notes/Connect Card **Or:** MYRC.LINK/CONNECT

DANIEL 1:1-4, NLT

During the third year of King Jehoiakim's reign in Judah, King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. The Lord gave him victory over King Jehoiakim of Judah and permitted him to take some of the sacred objects from the Temple of God. So Nebuchadnezzar took them back to the land of Babylonia and placed them in the treasure-house of his god. Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, his chief of staff, to bring to the palace some of the young men of Judah's royal family and other noble families, who had been brought to Babylon as captives. "Select only strong, healthy, and good-looking young men," he said. "Make sure they are well versed in every branch of learning, are gifted with knowledge and good judgment, and are suited to serve in the royal palace. Train these young men in the language and literature of Babylon."



We invite you to participate in Riverside's 7-week All-Church Spiritual Journey, **Stand Tall**. We believe God will use it to challenge, encourage and grow you as we explore the limits of our faith and seek to expand them.

Small Group Discussion &
Personal Guides on the back



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Daniel 1:1-4, NLT

On Daniel's Long Walk to Babylon... I think there are at least three thoughts he had shaping his exile that can also shape our exile.

1. Sin is real and so are its consequences.
(**Daniel 1:1-2a; Leviticus 26:14-5, 31-33**)
2. Evil is real and will try to destroy us.
(**John 10:10**)
3. God is real and will rework it all.
(**Jeremiah 29:10; Jeremiah 32:37; Deuteronomy 30:3-5**)

Go all-in on the All-Church Spiritual Journey!

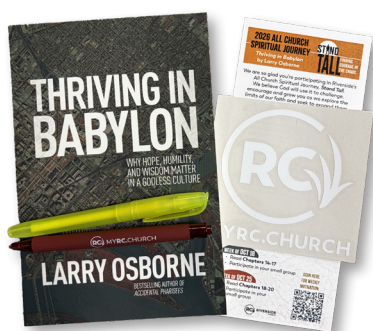


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