

**Home Group Notes**  
**Week of January 12, 2025**  
**Daniel Chapter 1**



**TRAGEDY, TRAUMA, TRADITIONS, AND TRUST**

This week's passage is about young adults who went through horrible tragedy. They suffered dark and lasting trauma, lost all their traditions, and this challenged their trust in God. Whew – that feels heavy to ponder.

You may be going through trauma or know someone who is suffering deeply. As I write, I am learning about thousands of families caught in a firestorm in Southern California. Diane is out with a friend to help a young widow with four young kids who just lost her home.

While we are sad to consider the life situation for Daniel and his teenage friends, we can also learn from how they responded.

**LEARN FROM GOD'S WORD**

Read through Daniel chapter one and consider the following questions:

What tragedy and trauma had these four young adults experienced? What all had they suffered?

Their new culture was radically different from how they were raised. What made their new situation very difficult and scary?

How did they respond to the challenge? What are key words or actions?

What was God doing in their situation?

What was God doing amongst the Jewish and gentile people in Babylon?

## **DISCUSS TOGETHER**

What happens inside of us when we face tragedy and trauma?

What do we learn about living by faith in God while living in a culture that is far from God?

How is our culture similar to the Babylonian culture?

This chapter could be titled, 'Trusting God together in challenging times.' The New Testament has numerous calls to 'do life together' but we are an independent bunch. What is needed for us to truly trust God together like these people did?

## **APPLY IT THIS WEEK**

As you encounter challenge this week, ask friends to pray, share wisdom, counsel or help. Let's give up the independent American ways and trust God together. Let's be like Daniel and his three friends and "resolve" to trust God together.

## **PLEASE PRAY**

O friends, there is so much need in our world and right here in our community. Let's endeavor to pray, to serve, and to trust God together.

- Pray for the many people who have suffered great loss
- Pray for the many churches who lost their campus in the fires
- Pray for and partner up with our Global Partners