



Each week's 'Dig Deeper Questions' will be added on Monday by Noon.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

IN TRUE IDENTITY | DANIEL CHAPTER 1

Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon besieged Jerusalem taking the temple instruments and placing them with his gods. He then commanded the royals, nobles and youth of exceptional looks and wisdom to be brought to Babylon. Daniel and his friends were probably only twelve to fourteen years of age. In Babylon they were placed into a 3-year training program where they would be indoctrinated into the Babylonian culture.

- Is there a story behind your given name?
 If you were going to change your name to identify yourself what would it be?
- 2. The name Daniel in Hebrew means, "God is my judge". How do you think Daniel lived up to his name?
- 3. Daniel showed unwavering faith as a young man. What things are you doing to help your child(ren) grow in their faith? If you are a grandparent what might you be doing to help your grandchildren grow in faith?
- 4. What steps did Daniel and his friends take to provide an alternative to the king's plan for the exiles?
- 5. Where do you see God's presence and provision for Daniel in chapter 1?
- 6. What challenges do you think Daniel and his friends faced with the other exiles who chose to follow the king's plan?
- 7. What challenges do you face today in our society to maintain your identity as a follower of Jesus Christ?
- 8. How can you be like Daniel when facing conflict between your convictions and what the world demands of you?
- 9. Pastor Tim pointed out four things about Daniel and his friends being in Babylon:
 - Prisoner of war.
 - Living in a foreign land far from home.
 - · Serving under a king and his gods.
 - Given a new pagan name.

How might you have responded to this as a teenager?

- 10. Question from Pastor Tim: 'Where has your life been polluted by your enemies: Satan, the world, or your own sinful heart?'
- 11. As a member of Shepherd's Gate Church how does your everyday life identify with our mission and values?