

Thriving in Babylon: Part 2

Ice Breaker Question

* To facilitate more participation you might want to have people answer some of these questions in pairs. Also, don't feel the need to ask all of the questions below. Be selective in accordance with the character and dynamics of your group.

Read Daniel Chapter 1

1. Did anything stick out to you in the text or in the weekend message? (pairs)
2. What is the significance of the chief Eunuch renaming Daniel and his friends?
3. Why did Daniel and his friends refuse to eat the food from the King's table?
4. In what ways can we feel 'smothered' and squeezed into the mold of the surrounding culture? (pairs)
5. What can we learn from their act of resistance?
6. **Reflect on this quote:** *"In exile if we are not actively resisting we are being assimilated. We are being renamed. If we experience no resistance to the surrounding world it is because we are swimming with the current instead of against it. But we don't preserve our unique identity by retreating from the world. That is actually a disavowal of our identity. The answer is not to retreat, but to engage in active love and service **as well as acts of resistance.**"* How is this quote true and how is it challenging for your life? (pairs)
7. What are the lies you are prone to believe? How does the truth of God's word challenge those lies?