

Study Questions:
“The Curse and the Cubicle” Part 4
Daniel 1:17-21

- 1) **READ** Daniel 1:8-10. It was stated in the message, “THE DEMANDS OF WORK MAY INVITE US TO COMPROMISE WHAT WE KNOW TO BE RIGHT.” Was Daniel, Hananiah, Michael and Azariah invited to compromise what they knew was right? Did Ashpenaz purposefully want these young men to violate any of their morals? What was the work of Ashpenaz? (Look at more context for help) From the very beginning how could misunderstanding set this relationship up for conflict?
- 2) We read that the four young men were supposed to eat and drink what was given to them just like everyone else. Which verses in Daniel 1 point to the fact there were more people also expected to eat and drink what was given to them? At what point did these young men decide they would not defile themselves with the food and drink? Before or after they were asked? (cf. Daniel 1:8) When should we make decisions about standing strong in our faith in the midst of an untoward world?
- 3) Have issues such as these ever come up at work for you? How do you deal with them and are you better at creating a resolution than you have been in the past? Are your resolutions inspired by God’s Word or common sense? What’s the difference and is there ever a time when one or the other (God’s Word or common sense) is simply not appropriate? Please **EXPLAIN**.
- 4) How did Daniel and his friends handle this potentially explosive situation? **READ** Daniel 1:8. Do you think this was an appropriate way of handling a possibly problematic scene? Did Daniel diminish any of his manhood by making a respectful request to his master? What are some of the road blocks which prevent us from entering into meaningful dialogue with those who are in leadership at our work? If you are in a leadership position on your job which road blocks do you observe?
- 5) **READ** 1 Peter 1:6-7. Could work be a place where your faith is tested to its core? How was Daniel’s faith tested? **READ** Esther 4:4-17. What was

Esther's predicament? Walking in faith is not always as simple as saying we believe in Jesus Christ. Do you think Esther's faith was challenged? How exactly does our faith grow and mature? Do you think our work has a role in maturing us in the faith? If yes, in what ways?

- 6) Was Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah only good in spiritual matters? What areas did they demonstrate excellence? (**READ** Daniel 1:17-20) What should be our response to this in our own lives? **CREATE** a plan of excellence for both your spiritual life and your work life and then **SHARE** it with someone you trust.