

ACTING UP

DANIEL – CONVICTION IN A CULTURE OF COMPROMISE – PART 2

START TALKING. WITH AN ICEBREAKER QUESTION:

- You can find some on page 6 [here](#).
- Share one good thing about your day so far!

START THINKING. ASK THE QUESTIONS THAT WILL GET YOUR GROUP THINKING.

- How have you seen believers respond when someone in authority over them in everything but a follower of Christ?
- Our society is very divisive on many issues. Why do you think people react so strongly when someone they know supports someone they disagree with? What is the source of their anger?
- Mark said, quoting Pastor John Piper, that, “Christians don’t need qualified government.” How does that statement play out over history? How about today?

Daniel 1:17-20 (NIV)

To these four young men God gave knowledge and understanding of all kinds of literature and learning. And Daniel could understand visions and dreams of all kinds. At the end of the time set by the king to bring them in, the chief official presented them to Nebuchadnezzar. The king talked with them, and he found none equal to Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah; so they entered the king's service. In every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king questioned them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanterers in his whole kingdom.

START SHARING. CHOOSE THE QUESTIONS THAT WILL CREATE OPENNESS.

- When is a time you were under the authority of a person you could not morally respect? How did you illuminate that person, or did you merely imitate them?
- The tension between being culturally relevant and radically distinct is challenging to walk. Which one is more natural for you? Why is the other one more difficult?
- Would people say you are more of a shiner (shining Christ) or a whiner (complainer about culture)?
- How do you practically carry out the principle of “Fear God. Honor the King.” Be specific.

1 Peter 2:17 (NIV)

Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honor the king.

START PRAYING. BE BOLD, AND PRAY WITH POWER.

- Father, may I spend more energy improving my follower skills than my leadership skills. Amen.

START DOING. COMMIT TO A STEP AND LIVE IT OUT THIS WEEK.

- When someone above you reacts improperly, determine to conduct yourself with conviction.