



LESSON 1 // KNOW WHERE YOU ARE GOING

Big Idea: To get to the right place in your life, you have to plan your route there. You must know where you are going. This involves beginning with the right end in mind and the right source for navigation, staying on course, watching out for hazards and trusting the process. Daniel gives us a great example of someone who navigated life well in this way, trusting and honoring God through it all.

Daniel 1:8 (NIV) *But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way.*

Start Talking:

How well do you plan out your trips? What's the value of planning ahead like this? What can happen if you fail to plan?

Start Thinking:

Read Daniel 1:1-8. What do you learn about Daniel's heart and mindset from these verses? How does this speak to you about the resolve you need to live for God in an ungodly culture?

Read James 1:22. How does obedience to God's Word help you stay on course to honor the Lord in your life?

Read 1 Corinthians 16:13 and 1 Peter 5:8. What do these verses tell you about spiritual hazards and how God calls us to respond to them?

Read Daniel 1:12,13. How did Daniel trust God's process in his life? In what ways do you need to trust God's process for your life?

Start Praying:

Pray for God to strengthen your resolve to live for Him in the face of cultural and spiritual opposition.

Start Doing:

Spend time this week applying James 1:22 by putting into practice something you know from God's Word but have not been doing. It may be resisting some temptation, forgiving someone who wronged you, speaking the truth to someone in love, or spending time in prayer that you have avoided. Write down what you learn from this and resolve to grow stronger in Christ through this experience.