

The story

Daniel 1, 3

Their story, our story

What do you do when your leader is absent?

Your friends will strengthen or weaken your faith, choose wisely.

Determine in advance how you respond to compromise.

Trust God beyond the immediate.

In the long term, obedience always leads to blessing.

Food for thought

Continue to discover God's word on your own or join with others to continue the conversation.

Psalms 127:1 (NLTSE)

Unless the LORD builds a house,
the work of the builders is wasted.
Unless the LORD protects a city,
guarding it with sentries will do no good.

Lamentations 3:22-23 (NIV) Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

What do these passages tell us about God's Faithfulness to us?

How can trusting God to be faithful to us help us be faithful to him?

2 Corinthians 6:14 –2 Corinthians 6:18 (TMSG)

Don't become partners with those who reject God. How can you make a partnership out of right and wrong? That's not partnership; that's war. Is light best friends with dark?

Does Christ go strolling with the Devil? Do trust and mistrust hold hands? Who would think of setting up pagan idols in God's holy Temple? But that is exactly what we are, each of us a temple in whom God lives. God himself put it this way:

"I'll live in them, move into them;

I'll be their God and they'll be my people.

So leave the corruption and compromise;

leave it for good,” says God.

“Don’t link up with those who will pollute you.

I want you all for myself.

I’ll be a Father to you;

you’ll be sons and daughters to me.”

The Word of the Master, God.

Who we spend time with and what we put into our lives (products, ideas, attitudes) have an impact on our lives.

Questions to consider:

What do I allow into my life? Is it beneficial to me?

Do I spend more time with people that draw me toward God or away?

Do I have boundaries for my life that I have predetermined before the moment arrives?

Do I have a plan to recover should I compromise?

This is a tough question to ask honestly: What kind of influence am I to my family and friends? Am I light or dark? Positive or negative? Do I point people to God or away?

PRAYER TIPS:

Use these prayer tips to talk it over with God:

- Father, I know I will face situations that call for me to compromise. In those moments help me to remember that you are always faithful, without fail. I can be strong because you are strong in my weakness.
- Father I am influenced daily by so many factors in my life. Help me to see through your eyes what is beneficial for me and what is not. Help me to be a positive influence to all those around me.