

FAMILY CONNECTION

Use the following thoughts and questions to have a spiritual conversation as a family. Don't emphasize having the right answer, but focus on spending time discussing the Word as a family.

SCRIPTURE | Daniel 1:1-21

SESSION SUMMARY

Many students have heard of Daniel and the lions' den, but this week's passage goes to the beginning of Daniel's story in Babylon. Daniel and several other young men were taken from Jerusalem to Babylon to serve the king. But these young men were God-fearing and decided to serve God above all, even in captivity. We'll see that even when culture tries to label us, God defines our identity. Here are the main takeaways:

- We must hold tightly to our convictions (Dan. 1:1-14).
- God rewards faithfulness (Dan. 1:15-21).

CONVERSATION QUESTIONS

- What we do when we aren't facing trials matters. How can our family set ourselves up to stand firm in God and His Word in times of peace so we're ready when trouble comes?
- Which cultural pressures to conform are most tempting for our family as a whole? Why? How can we fight them?
- When have you seen evidence that we thrive through obeying God, even when it seems like we shouldn't, just like Daniel and his friends?

FAMILY CHALLENGE

Invite each family member to think of some labels given to them by others, whether family, friends, or culture. Give each family member thirty seconds to list the labels he or she wears. All the other family members should choose one and either point out how a positive label fits the way God defines our identity or point out truth from God's Word that shatters the false reality of a negative label. At the end, discuss how you can wear your ultimate label: child of God.