



# THRIVING IN BABYLON

## ***Refusing to Compromise***

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### **Outline**

Read **Daniel 1:1-21** and remind everyone of the outline:

- I. One person's compromise very often becomes somebody else's trial (2 Kings 20:16-18)**
- II. Refusing to Compromise is not the same thing as refusing to serve or engage with the culture around us**
  - A. Daniel was willing to submit to really disturbing things
    1. He was subjected to their pagan education
    2. He was stripped of his Jewish identity by changing His name
  - B. Yet Daniel knew when to resist
- III. Refusing to compromise doesn't mean you stop being humble (Matthew 9:36; 1 Peter 2:13-14; Jeremiah 29:4-7)**
- IV. Our Refusal to compromise is driven far more by his faithfulness to us than our faithfulness to Him**
  - A. You can see how God is the One ultimately in control of where we are and who we are
  - B. You can see how God still keeps His promises even when he puts us in places we'd rather not be (Ezra 6:3-5; 2 Chronicles 36:22-23)

### **Sermon Discussion:**

#### **I. Conversation Starter Questions**

- A. Do you know the meaning of your name? Has that impacted your life in some way?
- B. Are you tempted to stand for truth without love, or to love (accept/compromise) without truth? Can you share an example from your life?
- C. What do you see as the difference between "refusing to compromise" and "refusing to engage"?
- D. Who's an example of someone (besides Jesus!) where you saw them refusing to compromise, but was full of love and humility?

#### **II. Application Question**

- A. How do you see our culture trying to change you?
- B. Do you have any unbelieving friends? What is your interaction like with them?
- C. How have you seen God use an uncomfortable time in your life?

**III. Gospel Connection** – Jesus is our righteousness—not our own moral standard or convictions. We don't need to defend ourselves, but rather we can give ourselves in love and humility to point others to our need for a Savior.

#### **IV. Prayer Focus Ideas**

- A. Do you need to repent of not loving, or of compromising?
- B. Is there an unbeliever the Lord is prompting you to interact with this week?
- C. Are you in an uncomfortable situation that you need to rest in, trusting that the Lord is using this and will work all things for His purposes?