

Daniel Makes a Wise Choice

Daniel 1:1-20

. . . Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. . . . Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, chief of his court officials, to bring in some of the . . . young men. . . . He was to teach them the language and literature of the Babylonians. The king assigned them a daily amount of food and wine from the king's table. They were to be trained for three years, and after that they were to enter the king's service.

"RESOLVED"
MEANS DECIDED



Among these [prisoners] were some from Judah: Daniel, . . . Shadrach; . . . Meshach; . . . and . . . Abednego.

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. Now God had caused the official to show favor and sympathy to Daniel, but the official told Daniel, "I am afraid of my lord the king, who has assigned your food and drink. Why should he see you looking worse than the other young men your age? The king would then have my head because of you."

"DEFILED"
MEANS TO
MAKE
UNCLEAN,
LIKE
POLLUTED



(Read the rest of this story on page 26.)

The king said that Daniel and his friends had to eat the royal food that had been offered to idols. Daniel knew this was wrong. Should Daniel obey God or the king?

✂ Cut out the Choice and Consequence cards. To play, pick a Choice Card and then a Consequence Card. If they match, then read both cards out loud, filling in the blanks as you read. If they don't match, put both cards back, shuffle, and draw again.

CHOICE CARDS

• What if Daniel did not say anything and just did what the Official said to do?

• What if Daniel talked back to the Official?

• What if Daniel chose to obey God's law and not eat the food?

• What if Daniel chose to speak up, but the Official refused his request?

CONSEQUENCE CARDS

• He would have disobeyed God and felt _____ for not having stood up for what was right.

• The Official might get angry and _____.

• The young men would be healthier than the others. The young men would feel _____.

• Daniel might have tried to _____.