WARM-UP QUESTION

Share about a situation or setting when you felt like an outsider.

DISCUSS

- What are some ways that you see culture shifting right now?
- What is typically your gut reaction when culture shifts: freak out, blend in, or hold onto faith?
 Why?

Read **Daniel 1** together out loud.

Options: Split up the passage between 2-3 people or go around the circle, reading one verse per person.

- What stands out to you in the circumstances portrayed in verses 1-5? Is there anything that strikes you as particularly unfair or hard to understand?
- If you were in the shoes of Daniel and his friends, what would you struggle with as you're brought to Babylon?
- What stands out to you in Daniel's actions in verses 8-13? What does it reveal about his character?
- Have you ever found yourself in a situation where you were pressured to compromise your values? How did you handle it?
- Where or when are you most tempted in your day-to-day life to blend into culture or compromise what you know to be true?
- As you look at Daniel's actions, what inspires or challenges you personally in how you can respond to an ever-shifting culture?
- Do you have a "line in the sand" like Daniel did when it comes to holding on to your distinctiveness and not compromising your faith? If yes, explain. If no, what difference do you think it would make in your walk with Jesus to draw that line?

RESPOND

- Based on what you've just discussed, take a couple minutes to quietly reflect on a good next step to help you stand firm in the midst of a shifting culture. What is God prompting you to do in response to the shifts that are affecting you personally?
- Share with your group what your step is and when you will do it. Then spend a few minutes praying together, that you would each anchor your faith in Jesus and not only live, but *thrive*, in the current culture that surrounds you.

Encourage group members to read Daily Bible Reading on the church app or have it delivered to their inbox daily. Subscribe at <u>tpcc.org/dbr</u>. Check in with your group to share thoughts about these throughout the week!