

Daniel 1 *'Keeping afloat in the rivers of Babylon'* 12th Feb 2012

Looking at the Text:

1. Who wrote the book of Daniel? When did it take place? When was it written?
2. Why did Nebuchadnezzar especially want young men for training? (Verses 1:4)
3. Why did Ashpenaz change the names of Daniel and his three friends? (To intimidate them, brand them, frighten them, anger them, assimilate them?)
4. Why did Daniel ask for special food? (Religious reasons, cultural reasons, dis-trusted King's food, wanted to feel separate, didn't like its taste?)
5. To Daniel and his friends, what was it like to maintain their diet (easy, traumatic, frightening, spiritual, risky)?

Thinking Deeper:

Why did Daniel and his friends not consider Babylonian names, Babylonian schooling, and working as officials of the Babylonian government defiling?

What can we learn from Daniel about his attitude of a believer living in a pagan system?

What do you feel when you stand up for something you believe in (confidence, power, peace, elation, fear, freedom)?

My Notes: