



“The Gift”

Randy Watson 1/3/21

Stand Out – For God

How do we take a stand for the things that matter most?

Context for Book of Daniel: takes place about 605 BC

Daniel 1:3-5

The enemy’s strategy was: Indoctrinate the new Young leaders to Think, to Behave and to Believe like the Babylonians do

To know when and what we need to stand out against:

Make God’s presence a priority in your life.

Eph. 6:10-13

Sometimes you have to take a stand for that which matters most, in the right way, at the right time and for the right reasons.

If you are never standing out, you are always blending in!

Holy = set apart ... “Be holy, as I am Holy”.

Daniel 1:6-7 / Verse 8

Daniel had Predetermined not to Compromise

*If you are going to stand out for God –
you must make some decisions ahead of time.*

Daniel 1:12-16

Daniel 1:17-21

If you don’t stand for something, you’ll fall for anything.

✓ **When you follow Jesus, you find true Life.**

TALK IT OVER

Discuss these questions with someone – maybe a family member, friend, or member of your LifeGroup. Use a communication method that works best for your situation.

If you don’t stand for something, you’ll fall for anything.

- Read Daniel Chapter 1:3- 5 What are some ways you’ve seen people blend into the world?
- What are some examples of standing out for God in the **wrong** way you’ve observed?
- Read Ephesians 6:11-13. What do you think is the most difficult thing about standing out for God and not blending in?
- What’s one way you are being lured to blend into today’s world?
- Pastor Randy said: I’d rather be remembered for standing out than forgotten for blending in.” How does that statement make you feel?
- What step will you take this week to stand out for God?
- Join us for our Streaming Services on Gateway Facebook or YouTube Church at Home.

Stand

January's Memory Verse – *Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.* **Romans 12:2**

Monday 1/4- Read Daniel 1:1-21

Question: Why did Daniel not want to eat the royal food that was offered to him?

Truth: *At the end of the ten days they looked healthier and better nourished than any of the young men who ate the royal food. Vs. 15*

Meditate: Daniel 1:9 *Now God had caused the official to show favor and compassion to Daniel,*

Prayer: Lord, give me the wisdom to avoid anything that would defile me.

Action: Make a commitment to eat healthy food in 2021

Join Gateway's Daniel Fast: _____

Tuesday 1/5- Read Ephesians 6:10-20

Question: Why must I start each day by putting on the full armor of God?

Truth: For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

Meditate: Ephesians 6:18- *And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.*

Prayer: Lord, I will stand against the Devil's schemes by using all the armor you provide.

Action: Pray for the people in our church. _____

Wednesday 1/6- Read 1 John 2:15-17

Warning: *Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father^[d] is not in them.*

Truth: *For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world.*

Meditate: 1 John 2:17 - *The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.*

Prayer: Father God, I love you and I love Others more than anything in this world.

Action: Share the love of God by loving Others.

What God is telling me:

Thursday 1/7- Read Galatians 5:16-26

Command: *So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.*

Truth: *But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.*

Meditate: Galatians 5:24- *Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.*

Prayer: Lord God, my desire is to be in step with the Spirit.

Action: Walk by the Spirit! Keep in step with your Spirit!

What God is telling me:

Friday 1/8- Read Matthew 6:19-24

Question: Why can't I serve both God and Money?

Truth: *"No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.*

Meditate: Matthew 6:21- *For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

Prayer: Father God, help me to be more loving to others and share the Good News with them.

Action: Demonstrate my love for God by loving others.

Worship God and love others

by: _____