



September 21, 2016

Win the Locker Room!

“Daniel determined that he would not defile himself with the king’s food or with the wine he drank.” – Daniel 1:8

What kind of example do you provide on your team, with your friends, and at home? Are you providing a positive influence? Do you yearn for a culture on your team and with your circle of friends that honors God?

In the book of Daniel we find a 16 year old teenager from selected from captivity to work for the Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar. We read about the bold and tough decisions that Daniel and his friends choose to make time and time again. Each decision displaying a stand for Godliness instead of the culture. They reject the king’s food, prayed when it was illegal to do so, and refused to bow to the king’s idol, for which they were thrown into a scorching furnace.

God protected Daniel and his friends because they chose to follow Him. He did not prevent them from living through difficult times or troubling tasks, but he gave them the strength to get through each one unscathed. They in turn became the leaders and changed the culture.

As leaders, they are used by God to influence both the King and the people of Babylon. Eventually we find Daniel being promoted by the King as chief over all the wise men in Babylon. Yet, through all these great victories, Daniel proclaims and gives all the glory to God; *“It is He who reveals the profound and hidden things; He knows what is in the darkness, and the light dwells with Him”* (Daniel 2:22).

So again, I ask you; what kind of example are you providing to your teammates, friends and family? Who is influencing who? Daniel was determined to allow God to work through him and in turn influence a King and an entire culture!

Allow God to use you. Choose to win in the locker room!

Questions: Are you a leader? Do you allow yourself to be a follower even when you know the culture is not of God?

Challenge: Take time to Read the Book of Daniel. Meditate over verses 1:8 and 2:22. Determine to be a leader for God. Display His integrity, even when others choose to act different.

Prayer: Thank you Lord for your mercy and grace. Thank you for your patience with me. Grant me the confidence and courage that comes from a transformed life filled with you. Allow me through your grace to be determined not to defile myself and instead to portray Godly integrity and influence.

-- Todd Burger – NOVA/DC FCA Baseball