

Message by John Johnson  
April 21-22, 2007  
Faith to Stand Apart in Culture  
Heb. 11:32; Daniel 1-6

If there is a hero listed in scripture who got it right, it was Daniel. Daniel was faithful to his religious convictions and yet was able to speak into and influence the surrounding culture. For most Christians today this is a hard balance to find.

Questions for Discussion:

1. What do you recall from the message that was encouraging or interesting to you?
2. As a young man, what convictions did Daniel take an early stand on? (Dan. 1:8-20)  
Why did he stand on these convictions?
3. On what cultural practices should Christians today be willing to take a stand for their convictions?

Why is it hard for some to be so resolute as Daniel was?

4. What does the prayer in Daniel 2:20-23 tell you about Daniel? What specifically did he understand about God? How would this affect his convictions?
5. How did Daniel have such courage as to speak such difficult prophetic messages as the one in Daniel 4:25-27?

What would we need as God's followers today to speak so boldly?

Can you think of any examples of such boldness today?

Can you think of any examples from acquaintances you know personally?

6. Pastor John said the four ways we can relate to culture are to a) cocoon, b) conform, c) combat, or d) engage. Which of these do you typically do?