International Fellowship of Christians
For Christ and His Kingdom · Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

Home Fellowship Outline
WEEK 12 · 2026

2026 THEME
Transformed to Bear Much Fruit

THIS WEEK'S STUDY

A Missionary in Babylon

The Witness of Daniel

Daniel 1:1–8 · Daniel 3:16–18

I Introduction

Missions is the expansion of God's kingdom to all nations. Daniel exemplifies this calling in a foreign context. After the fall of Jerusalem (Daniel 1:1–6), Daniel and his friends Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah were taken to Babylon and embedded within a pagan system of governance. Despite cultural pressure, they maintained spiritual integrity and became instruments through whom God revealed His sovereignty to kings and nations.

II Daniel's Missionary Posture

1 Commitment and Discipline

Daniel 1:8–9 shows a predetermined resolve not to defile himself. His obedience was deliberate, even under risk, and God responded by granting favour and influence.

2 Fellowship and Prayer

In Daniel 2:17–18, Daniel immediately sought his companions for united prayer in a life-threatening situation. Their shared faith created a spiritual support system through which God revealed mysteries (Daniel 2:19).

3 Trust in God's Sovereignty

His friends demonstrated absolute trust in Daniel 3:16–18, affirming God's power to deliver, yet submitting to His will even if He chose not to.

4 Giving Glory to God Alone

Daniel consistently rejected personal gain (Daniel 5:16–17) and pointed rulers to God's authority. His visions (Daniel 7:13–14) reveal the ultimate missionary message: the eternal dominion of the Son of Man.

Through these patterns, Daniel and his friends functioned as missionaries, declaring God's rule in a foreign land without compromising their faith.

III Discussion Questions

1. How did Daniel's deliberate decision in Daniel 1:8 shape his effectiveness as a missionary in Babylon, and how can personal conviction influence our witness in unfamiliar cultures?
2. In Daniel 2:17–18, Daniel immediately turned to his friends for prayer. How does this model of fellowship and accountability strengthen missionary effectiveness today?
3. What does the response of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in Daniel 3:16–18 teach about maintaining faith under pressure, and how should this shape our approach to mission in hostile environments?
4. Considering Daniel 5:16–17, how does rejecting personal glory and pointing to God enhance credibility and impact in mission work?

MEMORY VERSE

But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way.

DANIEL 1:8 (NIV)

✷ ACTION POINT

This week, intentionally develop a "Daniel model" in your current environment: demonstrate non-negotiable spiritual convictions, and engage in a committed prayer fellowship with like-minded missionaries like you.

Conclusion

Daniel and his friends demonstrate that mission is fundamentally about faithful representation of God in any environment. Their lives reveal that effectiveness in mission flows from disciplined obedience, sustained fellowship, unwavering trust in God's sovereignty, and a consistent commitment to glorify Him alone. The missionary mandate remains the same: to make the sovereign King known among all nations.