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Stand Firm, Be Strong, Never Quit, Thrive On - Part 2

When Giving In Is Giving Up - Stand Firm!

Daniel 1:5-21

Proverbs 17:3 (NLT) Fire tests the purity of silver and gold, but the Lord tests the heart.

- **Before every _____ there's always a _____.**
1 Thessalonians 2:4 (NCV) But we speak the Good News because God tested us and trusted us to do it. When we speak, we are not trying to please people, but God, who tests our hearts.
- **God _____ us with stress before he _____ us with success.**
Daniel 1:5,8 (NIV) The king assigned them a daily amount of food and wine from the king's table. They were to be trained for three years, and after that they were to enter the king's service... Daniel decided not to eat the king's food or drink his wine because that would make him unclean. So he asked Ashpenaz for permission not to make himself unclean in this way.

Defile - pollute, contaminate, corrupt, loss of purity

Four Qualities God Wants to See in Us

1. _____ - **He never forgot who he was.**
Daniel 1:8 (NIV) Daniel resolved not to defile himself...
Romans 12:2 (GNT) Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind. Then you will be able to know the will of God—what is good and is pleasing to him and is perfect.
2. _____ - **He controlled his ego and his appetite.**
Daniel 1:8 (NIV) But Daniel resolved (was determine, made up his mind, purposed in his heart) not to defile himself with royal food and wine...
Romans 6:13 (NLT) Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin. Instead, give yourself completely to God...use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God.

3. _____ - **He was willing to stand alone.**
Exodus 23:2 (GNT) Do not follow the majority when they do wrong...

1 Corinthians 16:13 (NIV) Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong.

4. _____ - **He was tactful with authority.**
Daniel 1:8-16, 18-19 (NIV)

Making a Case to an Authority

1. **Develop a _____ for being responsible.**
2. **Be _____ not belligerent.**
3. **Don't be _____ or manipulative.**
4. _____ **to their goals and interests.**
5. **Choose the right _____, _____, and _____.**
6. _____ **God if they reject your appeal.**

What gave Daniel the courage to stand alone?

- _____ **with God**
- **God's _____ in his life**
- **God's _____ in his heart**
- **God's _____ in his life**
- **God's _____ in his heart**