

Through the example of Daniel in today's scripture, let us learn how to live a life of faith and pray that each of us may live a wonderful life of faith in our daily lives in the name of the Lord.

First, we must determine our intentions with our hearts (Resolve).

In verse 8 of today's scripture, the first thing Daniel did was "resolve." He firmly decided not to defile himself with the king's food and wine. The repetition of his determination not to defile himself emphasizes the strength of Daniel's resolve. Although it is not precisely clear why Daniel considered the king's food and wine defiling, the Bible emphasizes the difficulty of such a decision. For a teenage boy, food is crucial, and abstaining from eating can be especially challenging. Yet Daniel and his three friends resolved to make this commitment. They set a firm line of self-restraint to avoid things that could easily cause them to lose their spiritual focus and avoided what God did not want. They chose self-control regarding the luxurious food and wine of the king. To keep our spiritual tension, it is essential to dedicate our hearts to God through self-restraint and holy determination. Resolving with our hearts and acting on it is genuine love for God. The command to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and strength" means loving the Lord with all your heart, making firm resolutions, and being willing to make sacrifices.

Second, we must practice faith wisely (Wisdom).

A healthy faith requires balance. It is difficult but essential to avoid being swayed to the left or right. Jesus told us to be as innocent as doves and as shrewd as snakes. From Daniel's example today, we learn this balance. He made a firm commitment to protect his heart. Yet, when living out his faith, he acted humbly, gently, and wisely. In the latter part of verse 8, it says, "He asked the chief official." Daniel requested and sought permission, striving to persuade. In verse 12, he humbly proposed a test, saying, "Please test us." Daniel presented his intentions not with an assertive stance but with a humble and wise request, trying to persuade those around him. Daniel's resolve was unwavering, as if he were ready to die for it, but he conveyed his faith to others with humility, wisdom, and a gentle demeanor.

Third, God's grace must be with us (Grace).

The passage shows that God provided grace throughout Daniel's journey—from setting his resolve, persuading the chief official, to standing before the king (verses 9, 17). Even though Daniel made noble decisions and spoke and acted wisely in faith, without God's grace and blessings, he would not have been able to keep his faith in Babylon. We cannot keep our faith or live a life of faith by our own strength alone. God's presence, grace, and blessings are essential for living faithfully.

**Bible
Memorization**

A VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”
(Joshua 1:9)

**Bible
Reading**

11/18(Mon)	11/19(Tue)	11/20(Wed)	11/21(Thur)	11/22(Fri)	11/23(Sat)	11/24(Sun)
Acts 3-5	Acts 6-8	Acts 9-10	Acts 11-13	Acts 14-16	Acts 17-19	Acts 20-22

QT

Quiet Time Passage

11/18(Mon)	11/19(Tue)	11/20(Wed)	11/21(Thur)	11/22(Fri)	11/23(Sat)	11/24(Sun)
Rev 1:1-8	Rev 1:9-20	Rev 2:1-11	Rev 2:12-17	Rev 2:18-29	Rev 3:1-6	Rev 3:7-13

**Sharing
Questions**

1. Please share any experiences of God’s grace from last week’s sermon or your devotional time throughout the week.

2. Share any new realizations or blessings you received from today’s message.

3. Make a resolution towards God, share with your group, and pray for each other.