

“Dare To Be A Daniel”:

Florida College Dry Creek Camp 2024

The book of Daniel is beloved and well-known to many of us. These are stories that many of us have grown up with and have gone on to teach to our own children and in our own congregations. The first half of the book contains the stories that chronicle the course of Daniel’s life from young courtier-in-training at the beginning of Nebuchadnezzar’s Babylonian reign over an empire, to Daniel’s later years as an old man in the service of the newly arisen Persian empire which succeeded Babylon.

The entire scope of Daniel’s life can be summarized as “in the world, but not of the world.” He had to spend the bulk of his years in exile from Jerusalem and the Temple. Both were destroyed by the people that Daniel went on to loyally serve. And yet despite being separated from the accountability of home and the regular worship of the Mosaic covenant, Daniel demonstrated an extraordinary faithfulness to God, courage under pressure, and maturity often beyond his years.

The book of Daniel is a particularly timely one for our campers. The world desperately wants to remake young people in its own image, not God’s. The pressures they face to conform to the world and affirm its values are very great. Our goal this week is to help them see themselves in these great stories—to believe that they, too, can stand up for God and not compromise themselves in our modern Babylonian captivity.

Our theme will follow this schedule:

Monday:	Dare to Be Different (chapter 1)
Tuesday:	Dare to Be Courageous (chapter 2)
Wednesday:	Dare to Be Faithful Under Fire (chapter 3)
Thursday:	Dare to Be a Servant (chapter 4)
Friday:	Dare to Be Consistent (chapter 6)

The lessons were originally written by Bubba Garner and have only been ever-so-slightly modified.

—Jeff Wilson