

**FAMILY LIFE CHURCH OF THE VALLEY
LIFE GROUP - RIVERSIDE COUNTY**

TITLE: UNSHAKABLE

SESSION ONE: WHEN YOU'RE PRESSURED TO CONFORM

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

CHECKING IN:

This week we're going to learn how to develop an unshakable faith for those times when you feel pressured to conform

BEFORE EVERY BLESSING, THERE'S A _____.

GOD TESTS US WITH _____ BEFORE TRUSTS US WITH _____.

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. 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 1:5, 8 (NIV)

4 QUALITIES GOD LOOKS FOR IN YOUR LIFE

1.) _____ - Daniel never forgot who he was.

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.

Romans 12:2 (GNT)

2.) _____ - Daniel controlled his ego and his appetite.

Daniel made up his mind not to eat the food and wine given to them by the king.

Daniel 1:8a (TLB)

Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin, instead, give yourselves completely to God, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So, use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God.

Romans 6:13 (NLT)

3.) _____ - Daniel was willing to stand alone.

SESSION THREE: WHEN YOU'RE ASKED TO DO THE IMPOSSIBLE (Cont.)

“Never follow the crowd in doing wrong, and don’t be swayed in your testimony by the mood of the majority.

Exodus 23:2 (GW/TLB)

Be on guard, stand firm in the faith. Be courageous. Be strong.

1 Corinthians 16:13 (NLT)

4.) _____ - Daniel was tactful with authority.

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. Now God had caused the official to show favor and compassion to Daniel, but the official told Daniel, "I am afraid of my lord the king, who has assigned your food and drink. Why should he see you looking worse than the other young men your age? The king would then have my head because of you." Daniel then said to the guard whom the chief official had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, "Please test your servants for ten days: Give us nothing but vegetables to eat and water to drink. Then compare our appearance with that of the young men who eat the royal food, and treat your servants in accordance with what you see." So he agreed to this and tested them for ten days. At the end of the ten days they looked healthier and better nourished than any of the young men who ate the royal food. So the guard took away their choice food and the wine they were to drink and gave them vegetables instead. . . At the end of the time set by the king to bring them into his service, the chief official presented them to Nebuchadnezzar. The king talked with them, and he found none equal to Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah; so they entered the king's service.

Daniel 1:8b-16, 18-19 (NIV)

HOW TO MAKE A CASE TO AN AUTHORITY

1.) Develop a reputation for _____.

Do you know a hard-working man? He shall be successful and stand before kings!

Proverbs 22:29 (TLB)

2.) Be _____, not _____.

When you stand before the king, don’t try to impress him and pretend to be important.

Proverbs 25:6 (GNT)

3.) Don’t be _____ or _____.

We reject all shameful and underhanded methods. We do not try to trick anyone and we do not distort the word of God. We tell the truth before God, and all who are honest know that.

2 Corinthians 4:2 (NLT)

4.) Appeal to their _____ and _____.

SESSION ONE: WHEN YOU'RE PRESSURED TO CONFORM (Cont.)

5.) Choose the right _____, _____, and _____.

A wise, mature person is known for this understanding. The more pleasant his words, the more persuasive he is.

Proverbs 16:21 (GNT)

6.) _____ if they reject your appeal.

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”

Romans 8:28 (NIV)

Don't become partners with those who reject God. How can you make a partnership out of right and wrong? That's not partnership; that's war. Is light best friends with dark? Does Christ go strolling with the Devil? Do trust and mistrust hold hands? Who would think of setting up pagan idols in God's holy Temple? But that is exactly what we are, each of us a temple in whom God lives. God himself put it this way:“I'll live in them, move into them; I'll be their God and they'll be my people. So leave the corruption and compromise; leave it for good,” says God. “Don't link up with those who will pollute you. I want you all for myself. I'll be a Father to you; you'll be sons and daughters!”... With promises like this to pull us on, dear friends, let's make a clean break with everything that defiles or distracts us, both within and without. Let's make our entire lives fit and holy temples for the worship of God.

2 Corinthians 6:14 – 7:1 (TM)

DISCOVERY QUESTION:

1.) God's word teaches us that before every blessing, there's a testing. How have you experienced this in your own life? What's an example of a time that God tested you with stress before he trusted you with success? How did going through that stressful situation affect the way you handled your success?

2.) Of the “4 Qualities That God Looks for in Your Life” (integrity, discipline, courage, and humility), which one do you struggle with the most? What might help you get stronger in this area? How is your struggle related to your trust in God?

SESSION ONE: WHEN YOU'RE PRESSURED TO CONFORM (Cont.)

3.) Have you ever needed to make an appeal to an authority, asking for a decision to be changed? How did it go? How might you do it differently now that you have learned the way Daniel made an appeal?
