

1. List all your authorities. At some point, someone in authority over you may require something of you that would violate God's law or a Godly personal conviction. Have you ever been in this situation? What did you do?
2. Read Acts 4:17-20. What should you do when you have to choose between obeying God and man?
3. Review the following definitions and list examples of each.
 - Absolute - *Eternal moral law built into creation by God and announced in scripture.*
 - Conviction - *Internal determination based on absolute truth impressed on me by God's Spirit.*
 - Preference - *External conformity motivated by momentary pressures of outside influences.*
4. Some people claim to live by conviction but when the pressure is on they prove their convictions were only preferences? What is the difference? Why is it important for Christians to stand on convictions?
5. Read Jeremiah 29:4-7. God's people can feel isolated in a hostile culture. What should be our attitude toward the culture we live in? Give some examples of how you can "seek the welfare of the city."
6. Read Daniel 1:8. How seriously do you take the things that threaten to defile (pollute) you? How seriously do you take protecting your family from things that will defile them? What are some disciplines you use to protect yourself and your family?
7. Have you ever seen someone stand for the right thing in the wrong way? Have you ever done this? Tell about it.
8. Review and discuss how to take a stand without being a jerk.
 - Check your motive.
 - Desire the success of your antagonist.
 - Discern their motive.
 - Design a creative alternative.
 - Stand out whether your appeal is accepted or denied.
9. Discuss the following list of areas where conviction is needed in order to stand firm. What are your convictions in these areas? If you don't have convictions in these areas, spend time this week searching the scriptures and deciding now before you have to take a stand.
 - Character
 - Spiritual Growth
 - Time – family, recreation, rest
 - Words
 - Vocation/Education
 - Money - Spending, Saving, Giving, Debt
 - Friends
 - Dating and Marriage
 - Clothing and appearance
 - Media, Music, and Movies
 - Alcohol and Tobacco

10. Who is the hero of the story? How does the classic statement, “Dare to be a Daniel” fall short of the gospel purpose of the book of Daniel? Why was it absolutely essential to the gospel that Daniel not be absorbed into Babylonian culture? Why is it essential to the gospel that Christians not be absorbed into American culture?