

## **The Story: The Bible as One Continuing Story of God and God's People**

### **Chapter 18: Daniel in Exile**

As you read, take note of the cast of characters. Write a short descriptive to help you remember.

Write any notes or questions you have.

Review the questions on page 481 in your book to prepare for discussion in class.

Do you ever struggle living as you have been taught when you are in the midst of a community that doesn't? How so?

Daniel and the other exiles constantly interacted and worked with people who embraced false gods, lived sinful lives, and approached everyday existence with a radically different set of norm. Daniel and his friends provided an example of how God's people can live faithfully in the midst of a sinful, ungodly culture.

- Resisted bitterness: instead they made themselves useful
- They always remained respectful: they approached others with humility, while refusing to compromise on the non-negotiables.
- They maintained hope in God's Word: Daniel was aware that Jeremiah's prophecy was in 70 years the exile would end. Held on to this hope.

How do you think the story of Daniel and his friends would have served to encourage others in exile?

What chief character qualities emerge as we read Daniel's story? How are these important to his story?

How are humility and pride rewarded or punished?

God never abandons his people! How does Daniel show this truth?