

Uncompromised Week 1

Discussion Guide



Icebreaker

What's a movie, book, or real-life story where someone unexpectedly stepped up and made a huge difference? Why do you think stories like that resonate with us?

Read

Take turn reading Daniel 1. (Optional: Have your group read each passage in two different versions. Then have the group retell the story in their own words.)

Discuss

One of the most striking parts of Daniel 1 is that Babylon didn't try to destroy Daniel's faith overnight. Instead, the strategy was gradual. New education. New culture. New names. New values. The pressure wasn't primarily violent—it was subtle. Daniel recognized where the path was leading before he arrived at the destination.

- **Why do you think gradual compromise is often harder to recognize than outright rebellion?**
- **Can you think of examples where small compromises eventually led to larger ones in your life, in culture, or in relationships?**
- **Where do you see pressure today to conform, fit in, or adjust your values in order to avoid tension?**
- **What areas of life are easiest to justify small compromises?**

Daniel recognized that even a small drift off course could eventually lead to missing the destination entirely. He also understood a hard truth: compromise doesn't remove internal tension; it just dulls our resistance to it over time. Whether it is the first lie or the first time crossing a line with debt or substances, the second time always becomes easier. Daniel decided to draw a line in the sand before he even knew how the story would end.

- **Why do you think small compromises often feel harmless in the moment but significant over time?**
- **What is the difference between wishing you could be different and resolving to be different?**
- **Why is it so difficult to set boundaries before pressure or temptation shows up?**
- **Can you think of a time when an early decision protected you from a later struggle?**

Daniel could not control the outcome. He couldn't guarantee that things would work out in his favor. He simply chose faithfulness and trusted God with the results. The phrase "Now God..." in verse 9 reminds us that while we are responsible for obedience, God is often working behind the scenes in ways we cannot see.

- **Why is it difficult to obey God when we don't know how things will turn out?**
- **What encourages you most about the fact that God was already working before Daniel ever knew it?**
- **How does the phrase "Now God" change how you view your current difficult circumstances?**

Application

Living for God isn't a one-time event. It is a series of moments where we choose to be "in the world but not of the world." We are called to close the gap between our personal lines in the sand and God's standards as found in the Bible.

- **What is one specific area personally, where you feel God is calling you to draw a line in the sand today?**
- **What fears or obstacles make this difficult?**
- **This week, practice Philippians 4:8. When you are tempted to compromise or endlessly scroll, stop and ask: Is what I'm doing or thinking true, honorable, right, pure, and worthy of praise?**

Prayer

Spend time in prayer asking God to reveal where subtle compromise may be shaping your life and to give you courage to draw a clear line of faithfulness.