Dare to be Different

Key Scriptures: Daniel 1:8-9; Proverb 3:3-4; Daniel 1:10-21; 1 Timothy 4:12; 1 Corinthians 10:31

1. Start talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- What have you done, accidentally or on purpose, that immediately made everyone around you look at you?
- OR have you ever had a dream where you were dressed differently than everyone else and couldn't change or hide? (Describe it!)
- Whether for real or in a dream, how did you feel when that happened? (examples: Embarrassed? Afraid? Thrilled? Other?)

2. Start thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Many animals are equipped with the ability to camouflage themselves. Can you describe one?
- Daniel and his friends were different than everyone around them in Babylon. Why? Was it their culture? Their clothes? Their diet? Or maybe... their choices?
- Proverbs 3:3-4 gives us instructions on how to have the favor of God in our lives. What would it look like to follow those instructions today?
- True or false. Following Jesus makes life better, and following Jesus makes you better at life. Why or why not?

3. Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- Do you think that Daniel felt God's favor all over his life? Why or why not?
- Daniel couldn't SEE God's favor, and he couldn't FEEL God's favor even though he really did have God's favor. How might Daniel, (and how might you) be certain you have God's favor?
- Do your actions (or lack of actions) set you apart? Do they encourage respect or discourage it? Why?
- Would you rather blend in and be on your own, or stand for God and have his favor all over your life?

4. Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

- Pray that God reveals how and where you need to change.
- Pray that God reveals how and where you need to become better.

5. Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

• The things that you know need to change in your life and become better won't change on their own. Talk to your Community Group leader about supporting you in prayer and in practice.