

THRIVING IN *Babylon*

Order of Service | July 14 - 15, 2018

Worship Team	Song Of Hope
Welcome/Greeting	
Worship Team	You Make Me Brave Seek You Faithful To The End
Message	Pastor Jay Bruner Thriving in Babylon (Part 2 of 4)
Offering/Dismissal	

Built Babylon Tough

Daniel 1-6

"...Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world." **John 16:33 (NLT)**

To take heart = Courage; It means to do tough things.

How to be Babylon Tough... (lessons from Daniel and his three friends)

Trust: Trust God in all circumstances and in every situation, no matter what happens.

If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God whom we serve is able to save us. He will rescue us from your power, Your Majesty. But even if he doesn't, we want to make it clear to you, Your Majesty, that we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up." **Daniel 3:17-18 (NLT)**

Obedience: Trust God's truth no matter how culture changes.

But Daniel was determined not to defile himself by eating the food and wine given to them by the king. He asked the chief of staff for permission not to eat these unacceptable foods. **Daniel 1:8 (NLT)**

Shadrach Meshach and Abednego: *"...we want to make it clear to you, Your Majesty, that we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up."* **Daniel 3:17-18 (NLT)**

Understanding: God's master plan.

Daniel replied, "There are no wise men, enchanters, magicians, or fortune-tellers who can reveal the king's secret. But there is a God in heaven who reveals secrets, and he has shown King Nebuchadnezzar what will happen in the future. Now I will tell you your dream and the visions you saw as you lay on your bed." **Daniel 2:27-28 (NLT)**

Grit: determination, tenacity, resolve, endurance (focus on the finish line).

Daniel remained in the royal service until the first year of the reign of King Cyrus. **Daniel 1:21 (NLT)**

70 years of faithfulness under four lost kings and four lost nations.

From age 15 to 85 years old, Daniel and his friends never changed.

Heart: Courage, bravery, resolve to do that which is right in God's eyes.

*"If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God whom we serve **is able to save us. He will rescue us from your power, Your Majesty. But even if he doesn't, we want to make it clear to you, Your Majesty, that we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up.**"* **Daniel 3:17-18 (NLT)**

Going deeper on your own: With pencil in hand, read Daniel 1. Using the acrostic TOUGH, write out beside each scripture where Daniel, and/or his friends, demonstrated one (or several) of the traits assigned to the letters of the acrostic. Now look back over each reference you marked and answer the following questions: Why did Daniel do this? What was Daniel's attitude in doing this? What was the outcome for Daniel and his friends? What was the effect on those around them? How do you think this affected the heart of God? What was the outcome of Daniel and his friends being courageous? How do you think the outcome affected Daniel and his friends? Now read and write out Isaiah 41:10. Pray, thanking God for this promise, then post it in a place where you can readily see it this week.