

Daniel: God's  
survival manual  
"drawing the line"  
Daniel 1:3-21

What is our greatest danger  
spiritually?

**1. When the culture wants  
to gobble you up (v3-7)**

"Don't stick out...

...and you could go far"

**2. Don't gobble it up  
(v8-16)**

Think carefully

Start early

Proceed wisely

Act corporately

**3. Because God honours  
those who honour him  
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### Questions for discussion:

1. Some dangers don't have a big red warning sign on them: what do you think might be the biggest dangers for you spiritually at the moment?"

2. The puritan John Berridge wrote: "We scarcely know how to turn our backs on admiration, though it comes from the vain world; yet a kick from the world does believers less harm than a kiss." In what ways does the world try and kiss us?

3. We are called to maintain our Christian identity without separating from the surrounding culture. Which is a greater danger for us at the moment, blending in or retreating into a ghetto? How can we take steps to avoid that danger?

4. "If you're sliding down an ice-flow, more important than where you put the ice-axe in, is that you put it in somewhere." Where might you need to "put the ice-axe in" in your situation? When are you tempted to judge those who put the axe in at a different point from you?

5. Are we tempted to put off being wholehearted until later? Why is that a dangerous strategy?

6. Are we inclined to be awkward and obstructive when we take a stand for God? What can we learn from Daniel's example?

7. In 1 Samuel 2:30 the Lord declares "those who honour me I will honour": how does Jesus' lifting-up and the certainty of our final lifting-up because of Jesus, give us confidence to honour Jesus now?

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