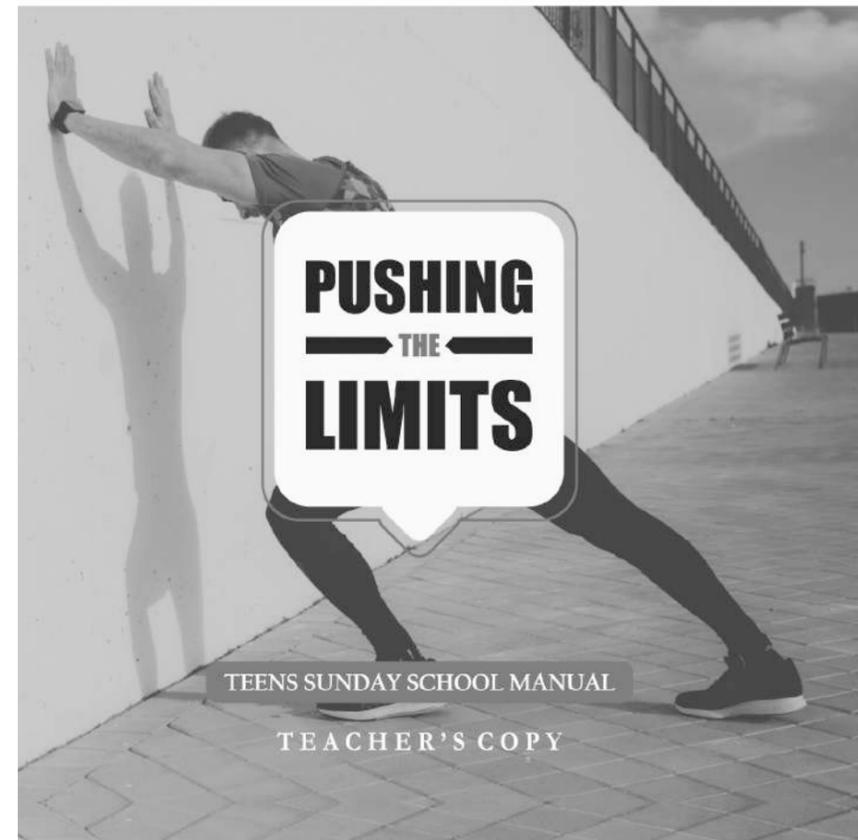


PUSHING THE LIMITS



The Foursquare Gospel Church In Nigeria
Jesus Christ the same yesterday and today and forever. Hebrews 13: 8



PUSHING
— THE —
LIMITS

TEENS SUNDAY SCHOOL MANUAL

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CURRICULUM PLANNER/DEVELOPER

Kehinde, M. Regina

CURRICULUM APPROVED BY

Ayanbanjo, O. Kafilat

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Eweje John	Kehinde Regina
Eweje Yemisi	Jolaosho Alaba
Odofin Jumoke	Omowo Funsho
Daramola Victor	Salau, Sam
Jayeola Olumide	Okerentie Maureen
Azuka-Obieke Uchenna	Olufemi Seyi
Oyediran Tunde	Sonubi Olawale
Osibanjo, Comfort	Alabi Lawrence

PROOF READER

Wemimo Ezekiel

GENERAL EDITOR

Uchenna Azuka-Obieke

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The Foursquare Gospel Church in Nigeria,
38, Akinwunmi Street, Alagomeji, Yaba, Lagos.
P.O. Box 273, Sabo – Yaba, Lagos, Nigeria
E-mail: n4sqxtianedu@yahoo.com
Tel.: 0701 588 8088; 0803 488 0927; 0802 305 0125

FOREWORD

Teenagers have considerable amount of strength and they are full of activities. They love to explore and to experiment in life. That is why this stage of their growth and development ought to be well guided in order for them not to fall into errors. Doing this successfully is a combination of many factors including parents being there for our teenagers so that they do not miss out of God's intended blessing.

God cares for His creation including the teens and He has great plans for them. Satan, the enemy who the Bible says has come to steal, kill and destroy (John 10:10a) will not give up easily in his intentions. Therefore, parents, the church and the teens themselves must therefore be careful and watchful to give the needed attention to their upbringing. We have a lot to gain if we make the right and necessary investments in this class of our population.

We thank God that as a church we have taken up the responsibility to ensure that our teenagers are being assisted in all possible ways to imbibe godliness and Christ-mindedness among other virtues necessary for balanced success in life. We trust God to prosper these efforts as we disciple our teenagers to navigate through the murky waters of life and fulfill their God-given destiny.

This manual has been prepared to achieve the goal of making our teenagers champions for God in their journey through life as they push beyond the limits. Our teens will continue to know the Lord and to be agents of positive change in Jesus name.

I bless God for the brethren God has used to prepare this material; you will all be richly blessed in Jesus name. I pray that the Holy Spirit will illuminate the hearts of our teachers and students afresh as this material is read and taught and make us all more conformed to the image of Jesus Christ - our Saviour, Baptizer, Healer and coming King in Jesus name.

Rev. Sam Aboyeji

General Overseer
Foursquare Gospel Church in Nigeria

PREFACE

Glory, honour, power, majesty belong to our God; the Father of all grace, from whom all blessings flow. We bless God for another glorious year. May we experience the manifestation of His Spirit, power and abiding presence.

The theme for this year is, **“Pushing the Limit”**. We should as teens try to strive harder to achieve more and attain greater heights. We should not allow the challenges of life to weigh us down, demoralize or discourage us. In all situation and circumstances, we should maintain our stand and remain resolute in faith. Success is achieved and vision is attained when we refuse to give up despite all odds. Though, there are challenges out there and pressures all around, yet you should not be distracted by them.

I wish to encourage you to push harder and go beyond the limit. Don't settle for the little, strive to go higher and reach the goal. The throne of God is your limit; don't settle for the sky. Daniel was a youth when he was taken to Babylon, yet he exemplified himself. He refused to compromise his faith or allow any kind of defilement. There is no limitation to your progress, advancement and success. Trust God to overcome all challenging situations.

The lessons arrangement and content of material in this manual are rich resources to build and equip you for success and victorious life. I counsel that you put every word of God and godly principle taught in the manual into practice. As you do this, you will see the power of God at work in your life.

In this perilous time, believers must resist the pressures that can squeeze them into conformity with the world. Conformers are people whose lives are controlled by pressure from without, but "transformers" are people whose lives are controlled by power from within. Daniel and his three friends were used by God to transform the minds of powerful rulers and to bring great glory to His name in a pagan land. This was possible because they gave themselves wholly to the Lord (Dan 1:8; Rom 12:1-2).

The scripture admonishes us, "Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life" (Prov. 4:23). A heart that loves the Lord, trusts the Lord, and obeys the Lord. Throughout the Scripture we find courageous people who had to defy authority in order to obey God using wise and gentle approach. Let your confidence be in the Lord and He will lift you up. As we determine to walk in His counsel the Lord will grant us the abounding grace.
Shalom!

Rev. (Mrs.) K. O. Ayanbanjo
National Director Christian Education,
The Foursquare Gospel Church In Nigeria

GENERAL INTRODUCTION**“PUSHING THE LIMITS”**

Congratulations! We made it into the year 2021 having gone through the various challenges of the year 2020. Praise be to our God! Our theme as stated above couldn't have been more relevant than now. Greg Plitt has many quotes on the above theme but suffice it for me to sight a few.

“The road to success is a very lonely road. You're not going to see too many friends. It is only you, with your shadow. Once you get there, many people will love you. Also, many people will hate you because your success is a huge spotlight, shining on their failures.”

“Today, it begins. Tomorrow, it continues. And it never ends, until you reach your goal and cross the finish line.”

“Second by second, you lose the opportunity to become the person you want to be. Take charge of your life.” – Greg Plitt.

My dearly beloved comrades, I welcome you to a new year of special moves that lead to giant and great success. Our topics are specially crafted to meet the day to day challenges and pursuits throughout lifetime. Make every effort to read, study and attend the Sunday school as scheduled in your local church. Your teachers are well prepared to meet you every Sunday with the gems of making good success as desired by you and your loved ones. Remember, 2021 shall release to you every glory of Higher grounds in Jesus name. Don't quit, don't run away from God and remain the Pride of God and of our Movement. Believe in yourself and remember also that “One Hour of pain produces a lifetime of pride.”

To the Teacher, doing normal is not acceptable in this New Decade. Rather, PUSH YOUR LIMITS as well. Happy New Year, happy studies and glorious testimonies!

Rev. Mrs. Regina M. Kehinde, (DDiv.)
National Minister for Sunday School Curriculum,
Foursquare Gospel Church in Nigeria.

EFFECTIVE NUGGETS FOR THE TEACHER**A. The Importance of the Sunday School**

Sunday school is an educational arm of the Church that provides a curriculum of Bible Study with particular emphasis to establish souls in Christ Jesus. Its values or importance cannot be exhausted.

Sunday school offers:

1. Better place and opportunity for teachers to carefully take God's word and apply it to daily lives and problems of the students.
2. It enlists more people into a systematic study of God's word.
3. It provides close contact among Brethren.
4. It is the fulfillment of the great commission (Matthew 28:18-20)
5. It helps students to have a better understanding of Christian life.

Consequent to the above values of Sunday School, the Pastor and Sunday School Board should set for themselves definite objectives and work towards the realization of such for the development of Sunday School Ministry and the Church. "Grow Sunday school, grow your Church."

B. The Holy Spirit Empowerment in Your Teaching

Teaching or service done in the energy of the flesh is of little value. The Holy Spirit's power is then needed because:

1. The Holy Spirit is the engine oil or lubricant that enhances smoothness and effectiveness in your teaching.
2. He enlightens, enables and guides us as we prepare and teach.
3. His power is needed for the Word of God to be effective in students' lives.
4. His power is essential to understand the truth (2 Corinthians 2:12-15)
5. His power is needed because without Him, we can do nothing.
6. His power will remove people's spiritual blindness and regeneration will take place.

It is no gainsaying therefore, that both the teacher and the learner have great need of the breath of the Holy Spirit.

C. Preparing Your Sunday School Lesson

1. Start lesson preparation on Monday, so your experiences during the week

may be incorporated in your teaching.

2. Have a central aim in your lesson.
3. Read the scripture passages from several versions for clarification.
4. Develop a clear outline and points for emphases from the manual.
5. Arrange time for prayer, review, Bible reading, discussion, student's book, memory work, application and closing. But be FLEXIBLE!
6. Remember the needs of individuals in your class (discover these through visitation to their homes and personal counseling sessions with students). Keep in mind that you are teaching persons and not just a lesson.
7. Know the age level characteristics of the group you are teaching.
8. Develop your lesson note for each topic, to add illustrations, outlines and other teachings aids each year you continue to teach.
9. Know the work required in the student's workbook. Determine how to use it in class review, work period, and discussion.
10. Plan an interesting approach to capture attention. This may be a question to stimulate thought, a problem to solve, and a true-life story to illustrate the lesson.
11. Plan a variety of methods, visual, object lesson, drama, stories, sword drills, questions and answers, discussion and so forth.
12. Plan thoroughly class participation methods.
13. Develop study questions to cause the students search the Bible for themselves. Ask them: who, what, when, where, and why? (For example: Ask, "What does the Bible say...?" etc.
14. Allow students to ask questions. If you don't know the answer, admit it and tell them you will seek the answer during the week, or assign the question to the class for further study.
15. Prepare the room before the class period, arranging chair, visual aid equipment, decorations, and objects.
Pray for wisdom in preparation, clarity in presentation, and sincerity in application.

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3rd January

Lesson 1

STARTING ON THE RIGHT
NOTE

Daniel 1:3-14, Genesis 39:8-9, Esther 4:15-16, Mark 1:16-20, Matthew 1:19-20



Memory Verse: Daniel 1:8

"But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the chief of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself."

Relevant Words: Proposed, Defile, Determination, Request, Wine

Lesson Goals:

1. Students should be able to make decision of determination to focus on God.
2. They should be able to define their purpose on earth.

Lesson Outline:

- I. Purpose in your heart.
- II. You are responsible.
- III. There are consequences.

Lesson Introduction

We bless God for another glorious year. Be rest assured that God has precious promises for us. His thoughts are of good and future (Jer. 29:11). It's a common practice for people to start a new year with some kind of resolution. It is also noted that such resolutions made out of self will do not last beyond few days at most, a month. Though, we have responsibility to start on a right tone each year, we cannot achieve this with self will. So, as you determine to achieve the best this year, you must put God first in all things and follow Him all the way, for without Him we can do nothing (John 15:5). Daniel was a teenager when he was carried away as captive to Babylon, yet he determined not to defile himself but, to remain faithful to God. This determination paid off at the end. He became trusted administrator under three empires. He serves as good example for us as teens. Joseph also refused to compromise and so displays good conduct in a strange land, Egypt, both as slave and prisoner. What is your determination?

Lesson Commentary

The tone for each year is set at the very beginning of the year. Daniel made know his determination from the very beginning of his called to serve the king. The king's policy was to train the best people of the conquered nations to serve in his government as to use their skills to

strengthen his administration. Although there were several deportations of Jews to Babylon, it appears that Daniel and his three friends were favoured. They exemplified themselves among others. As children of God we must resist the pressures that can "squeeze" us into conformity with the world (Rom. 12:1-2). Conformers' lives are controlled by pressure from without, but "transformers" lives are controlled by power from within. Daniel and his three friends were transformers: instead of compromising, God used them to transform the minds of powerful rulers thereby bring glory to God's name in a pagan land. They accomplish this by giving themselves wholly to the Lord (Dan 1:8; Rom 12:1-2, Prov. 4:23).

I. Purpose in your heart

The heart is important in man's life. It plays great part in determining the personality of man – actions and conduct (Mat. 12:34). King Nebuchadnezzar made abundant provision for the captives – good portion of food and wine daily from the king's table. However, the food did not conform to the requirements of the Mosaic Law; to partake of such food would defile the Jewish youths (Ex 34:15). Daniel's desire was to please God in all he did. So he resolved that even though he was not in his own native land, he would follow God's laws (Dan. 1:8). Daniel was courageous, determined, and

obedient to God. He therefore asked the chief court official to excuse him from eating the food and drinking the wine generously supplied by the king.

Joseph exhibits good manners which made his father to love him and sends him to care for his brothers. His brothers hate him because of his dreams. Joseph suffered in a pit because of the hatred of his brothers, and was to face greater danger because of the lust of an evil woman. "For a harlot is a deep pit, and a seductress is a narrow well" (Prov. 23:27). Joseph was determined not to sacrifice either his purity or his integrity just to please his master's wife. It required a great deal of courage and determination for Joseph to fight this battle day after day, and succeeded at the end. He refused to compromise his faith in God. He gives his reasons: She was another man's wife (his master); he was trusted by his master and didn't want to violate that trust; even if nobody founds out, God knows and would be displeased. Joseph sees it as a great wickedness against God (Gen 39:9).

Esther was forced under the present circumstances to make a great decision that affects our life, "If I perish, I perish" (Est. 4:15-16). She resolved to carry out the wishes of

Mordecai and go to the king even if it meant her death. We see Esther and Mordecai as great patriots on behalf of the Jewish nation who trusted the Lord. From the human point of view, everything was against Esther and the success of her mission. The law was against her, But the scripture says, "if God be for us, who can be against us?" (Rom 8:31)

II. You are responsible

Every human being is responsible for his/her decision and action. This is the very reason why we must consider our thoughts and weigh our action. If we think foolishly, we will act foolishly which may result in adverse consequences. Daniel decided not to defile himself with the king delicacy because he felt responsible to keeping the commandment of God. Daniel was able to convince the steward set over him and his three friends by taking responsibility for what happens for refusing the king's delicacy (Dan. 1:11-14).

Joseph was aware of his position in Potiphar's house, "But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Look, my master does not know what *is* with me in the house, and he has committed all that he has to my hand. *There is* no one greater in this house than I, nor has he kept back anything from me but you, because you *are* his wife. How then can I do this great

wickedness, and sin against God?" (Gen. 39:8-9). He knew he was responsible to keep the house in order and not to cause problem. He was responsible to be loyal and obedience to his master and not to betray his trust.

Esther felt compelled that she was responsible to oblige Mordicai. She was also responsible to the safety and wellbeing of her people, the Jewish race. Mordicai made her to understand that she has to save the situation by the virtue of her position in the palace, "For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for *such* a time as this?" (Esther 4:14).

III. There are consequences

Every decision and action we take has consequences. This is where wisdom demands that we count the cost first (Luke 14:28-33). Daniel knew it would be wrong for him to subscribe to the king's delicacy, which amount to disregard for the law of God. Joseph was aware of the consequences of submitting to the advances of his master's wife – doing evil before God and to his master, "...How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?"

(Gen 39:9). Queen Esther realized that her refusal to yield to Mordecai's request will spell doom for the Jewish race (Esther 4:13-14). 'Esther understood the situation well. In concluding her reply to Mordecai she noted, If "I perish, I perish". She resolved to carry out the wishes of Mordecai and go to the king even if it meant her death.'

Joseph might have realized that his case with Potiphar's wife was a test of obedient. His failure will amount to disappointment before God and his master. So, he deliberately and wisely sought to avoid her daily advances by refusing even to be around her. His refusal was strengthened because he was convinced that God had called him to a special task - If one is to fulfill God's plan, he cannot sin against the God who will bring it to pass.

In Mark 1:16-20 Jesus Christ called a set of people to follow Him. Simon and Andrew left their nets at once (their old calling) and followed Him. On the same occasion James and John, the sons of Zebedee, without delay left their father Zebedee and the hired helpers and followed Him. This means that they left behind their old way of life and profession to become His disciples, giving Jesus their full allegiance (Mark 10:28; 1 Cor. 7:17-24).

Summary and Conclusion

As we come to this New Year, we need to make determination to walk with God. It starts from the heart. Daniel proposed in his heart not to be defiled. Joseph determined not to fall for Mrs. Potiphar. Esther determined to carry out the course of the Jews before the King. The first set of Jesus' disciples determined to abandon all and followed Him. Joseph, the husband of Mary determined not to make public show of her. They all made great decisions and took responsibilities for their actions and ready to face the consequences.

Joseph was wise enough to follow the same advice Paul gave to Timothy, "Flee the evil desires of youth" (2 Tim 2:22). It would be good for you to take this same wise counsel. Strong determination and Self-control is an important factor in building character and preparing us for leadership. "Whoever has no rule over his own spirit is like a city broken down, without walls" (Prov. 25:28). Joseph exercised self-control, but Samson yielded to the body to gratify his own pleasures. Joseph ended up ruling on a throne, while Samson ended his life buried in a pile of rubble (Judges 16:23-31).

Life Application

Daniel and his three friends were a part of the faithful Jewish remnant in Babylon, placed there by the Lord to accomplish His purposes. Know that

God has placed you where you are to fulfill a purpose so, be determined to walk with God this New Year regardless of the situation and circumstances. The Scripture is full of courageous people who had to defy authority in order to obey God, taking wise and gentle approach. "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone" (Rom 12:18 NIV). Aside of Daniel and his friends, we have the examples of the Hebrew midwives (Ex 1), the apostles (Acts 4), and even Jesus Christ Himself (1 Peter 2:13-25). They all exhibited meek and quiet spirit. They saw the challenge as an opportunity to prove God and glorify His name.

Take Home Assignment

1. Ask the students to write what they determined to accomplish this year and steps to take.
2. Let them make list of challenges they are facing or likely to face in fulfilling their purpose this year.

10th January

Lesson 2

STEPS TO EXCELLENCE

Daniel 1:8, 17-20



Memory Verse: Daniel 1:17

"As for these four young men, God gave them knowledge and skill in all literature and wisdom; and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams."

Relevant Words: Excellence, Wisdom, Knowledge, Understanding, Skill.

Lesson Goals:

1. Students should be able to know the importance and need for Excellence.
2. They should be encouraged to determine to take steps of excellence.

Lesson Outline:

I. Determination.

II. Diligence.

III. Discipline.

Lesson Introduction

The spirit of excellence is a virtue that every teenager should covet. Daniel and his three friends excel in foreign land, even as captives. God is calling on you

too to strive to excel and bring glory and honour to His holy name. The wise man says wisdom is the principal thing and therefore admonishes us to seek wisdom and get understanding (Prov. 4:5-7). Apostle James shows us how to get it, by asking of God in faith (James 1:5-7). Wisdom demands discretion, determination, diligence and discipline.

Lesson Commentary

Babylon became a world power and conquered other nations. The Jews were part of the people brought to Babylon as captives. King Nebuchadnezzar decided to make abundant provision for the captives. They were given a life of luxury with portion of food and wine daily from the king's own table. However, such provision and food did not conform to the requirements of the Mosaic Law. Things forbidden by the Law were served on the king's table so, to partake of such food could defile the Jew (Ex 34:15).

I. Determination

Determination is defined as quality of being determined, firmness of purpose. It means being resolute. We need to make irrevocable determination to obey God in all circumstances. Daniel was resolute in his decision even in a foreign land (Dan. 1:8). Determination makes you bold and gives enough strength in the face of persecution. A serious conspiracy was made against Daniel, that the king was misguided to pass a

decree that could not be altered. "So the governors and satraps sought to find *some* charge against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find no charge or fault, because he *was* faithful; nor was there any error or fault found in him. Then these men said, "We shall not find any charge against this Daniel unless we find *it* against him concerning the law of his God.'" (Dan. 6:4-5). They resolved to use Daniels religious commitment to catch him. Daniel's determination to be faithful to God come what may made him disregard their threat (Dan. 6:10).

The three Hebrew boys was bold to declare to the world class powerful king, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego answered and said to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. If that *is the case*, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver *us* from your hand, O king. But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up.'" (Dan. 3:16-18). God always stand by us when we make bold declaration in faith, love, truth and confidence in Him.

The challenges of the world, particularly this perilous time (2 Tim. 3:1-9) demands we make solid

determination not to allow anything to stand between us and God. Our faith must be built up, our mind must be made up and we must be able to stand up to it. Daniel's heart and the totality of his being belonged to the Lord. (Dan 1:8; Rom 12:1-2, Prov 4:23).

II. Diligence

Diligence means being careful and persistent work or effort. It entails careful work involving long-term effort; "The qualities of a hard worker, including conscientiousness, determination, and perseverance." The scripture says, "Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." (2 Peter 1:10-11). Apostle Peter admonishes us, "Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless;" (2 Peter 3:14-15).

Diligence is a godly virtue. The wise man says, "The hand of the diligent will rule, But the *lazy man* will be put to forced labor." (Prov. 12:24). Daniel was diligent in his service even as a captive. His diligence earns him respect, recognition, dignity, honour

and promotion. He served as trusted administrator under four kings within three empires. "Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men." (Prov. 22:29).

To excel in life we must diligently follow the Lord. A heart that loves the Lord, trusts the Lord, and therefore obeys the Lord has no difficulty making the right choices and trusting God to take care of the consequences. When they had to choose between God's Word and the king's food, Daniel and his companions chose the Word of God (Ps 119:103; Deut 8:3).

III. Discipline

God has called us to a life of discipline. We are to maintain a controlled behavior and self-control. Your skill, knowledge, anointing or charisma can take you high/far, but a disciplined life /character will sustain and preserve you. A beautiful future could be destroyed due to lack of discipline. Daniel's life of discipline sustains and grants him continuous promotion even as a captive in foreign land. Joseph could have easily destroyed his destiny if he had lived a loosed life. Samson's indiscipline life with strange women led to his downfall.

Disciplined life demands you turn

your back to evil and anything ungodly. Daniel and his three companions refused the king's offer of delicacy because the food did not conform to the requirements of the Mosaic Law; no doubt many things forbidden by the Law were served on the king's table. To partake of such food would be contrary to God's commandment (Ex 34:15). Mordecai demonstrates high level of self discipline. This same character is witness in Esther, despite her state, she was found pure, righteous and holy.

Summary and Conclusion

Discipline and Self-control is an important factor in building strong character and preparing us for leadership. "Whoever has no rule over his own spirit is like a city broken down, without walls" (Prov. 25:28). Joseph exercised self-control, but Samson used his body to gratify his own pleasures; and Joseph ended up ruling on a throne, while Samson ended his life buried in a pile of rubble (Judges 16:23-31).

Daniel and his three companions study and apply themselves to disciplined life. They remain resolute in their determination to serve God and obey His commandment. Their commitment and diligence earn them promotion and bring glory to the name of the Lord.

Life Application

Daniel's desire was to please God in all he

did was a great virtue worthy of our emulation. He resolved that even though he was not in his own land but, in a culture that did not follow God's laws, he would consider himself under the Law. He therefore asked the chief court official to be excused from eating and drinking the food and wine generously supplied by the king. Daniel was courageous, determined, and obedient to God. These are the qualities to be imbibed by a teenager.

Daniel and his three friends were better able to show themselves superiority by God's wisdom. They show commitment to God and live a disciplined life. The Lord gave Daniel a special gift of understanding visions and dreams. When we remain committed to God, He will manifest Himself in and through our lives.

Take Home Assignment

Let the students study the life of Daniel and explain the qualities that mark him out.

17th January

Lesson 3

EXCELLENCE IN WORK

Colosian 3:23-24. Proverbs 16:11, 22:29



Memory Verse: Colossians 3:23-24

“And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.”

Relevant Words: Excellence, Work, Reward, unto God, Eye-service, Heartily

Lesson Goals:

1. Students to know and understand the need for excellence in service.
2. For students to set their priorities aright.

Lesson Outline:

- I. Work hard.
- II. Learn to be fair.
- III. Trust God with the outcomes.

Lesson Introduction

Dignity of labour demands diligence in working. Hard work, they say, do not kill but idleness /laziness is bad; it cannot put food on your table. The scripture says, “Go to the ant, you sluggard! Consider her ways and be wise, Which, having no

captain, Overseer or ruler, Provides her supplies in the summer, *And* gathers her food in the harvest. How long will you slumber, O sluggard? When will you rise from your sleep? A little sleep, a little slumber, A little folding of the hands to sleep — So shall your poverty come on you like a prowler, And your need like an armed man.” (Prov. 6:6-11).

Apostle Paul advises and admonishes the Thessalonians, “But we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you withdraw from every brother who walks disorderly and not according to the tradition which he received from us. ... nor did we eat anyone's bread free of charge, but worked with labor and toil night and day, ... but to make ourselves an example of how you should follow us... If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat. ... For we hear that there are some who walk among you in a disorderly manner, not working at all, but are busybodies. Now those who are such we command and exhort through our Lord Jesus Christ that they work in quietness and eat their own bread.” (2 Thess. 3:6-12).

Lesson Commentary

Apostle Paul advises the slaves to apply a principle which has a far-reaching application in serving their masters. They are to feel and act as servants of Christ. Furthermore, we are to serve Christ by discharging all the duties of life so as to please Him. This suggests an essential and lofty ideal for Christian service. As