



One Big Story - Week 5
"Stranger In A Strange Land"
Daniel 1
No matter where you go, God is
already there.



SERMON EXTRAS & FURTHER READING

FOR FURTHER READING:

Do Your Best and Trust God For The Rest
By James Moore

The Ragamuffin Gospel
Brennan Manning

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR PASTORCAST WITH PASTOR LEON AND MERIDETH

PastorCast Podcasts can be found by:

- Listening online through the "Audio" page of Pastor Leon's website leonbloder.org or leonbloder.com
 - Searching for "PastorCast Weekly Podcast" in iTunes
- You can also subscribe to our podcasts from iTunes and receive them automatically.*

DAILY DEVOTIONALS THIS WEEK:

The daily devotionals will be posted on Pastor Leon's blog, linked on his Tumblr account, the church's Facebook Page and Twitter.

**THE BIBLE IS GOD'S ONE BIG STORY OF GOD'S LOVE FOR PEOPLE WHO DON'T ALWAYS
FEEL LIKE THEY DESERVE GOD'S LOVE**

**THIS SERIES IS GOING TO TEACH US ONE VERY IMPORTANT THING:
GOD CAN USE YOU NO MATTER WHAT**

TODAY WE'RE GOING TO BE EXPLORING ONE OF THE STORIES FROM THE LIFE OF DANIEL
**HAVE YOU EVER FOUND YOURSELF IN A SITUATION WHERE YOU FELT POWERLESS,
ISOLATED AND LONELY? WHAT DID YOU DO?**

NO MATTER WHERE YOU GO, GOD IS ALREADY THERE

DANIEL 1

- THE YEAR IS 599 B.C. AND NEBUCHADNEZZAR HAS CONQUERED JUDAH
- 10,000 PEOPLE WERE TAKEN BACK TO BABYLON—7,000 OF THEM ROYAL
- DANIEL WAS GIVEN NEW CLOTHES, NEW LIFE, AND A NEW NAME BELTESHAZZAR
- NEBUCHADNEZZAR WORSHIPPED MARDUK - BUILT A HUGE SHRINE
- HE LIKED TO COLLECT—RICHES, KINGS, ARMIES, BEST AND BRIGHTEST
- DANIEL FORCED TO LEARN AKKADIAN, BABYLONIAN CULTURE, AND TO EAT THEIR FOOD
- NOT SO MUCH A DIETARY RESTRICTION AS A CAPITULATION—BELONG TO THE KIND
- DANIEL KNEW THAT IN DOING SO HE WOULD BETRAY HIS IDENTITY, CONVICTIONS
- MAKES A DEAL WITH HIS CARETAKER—EAT ONLY VEGGIES, DRINK ONLY WATER
- AT THE END OF THE TIME, HE AND HIS FRIENDS WERE BETTER, STRONGER, SMARTER
- WHERE DID HE GET THE COURAGE TO DO THIS? HE WAS IN A STRANGE LAND
- IN THIS CULTURE WHEN YOU LOST, IT MEANT YOUR GOD HAD LOST

**IT CALL CAME DOWN TO SEEING LIONS—THE GATES OF ISHTAR - STRIKE FEAR
DANIEL—HE SAW THE LION OF JUDAH... GOD WAS ALREADY THERE.**

NO MATTER WHERE YOU GO, GOD IS ALREADY THERE

SO WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU FIND YOURSELF ISOLATED, ALONE?

WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU ARE THE STRANGER IN A STRANGE LAND?

- WHEN YOU ARE BEING TEMPTED TO BETRAY YOUR CONVICTIONS FOR GAIN
- WHEN YOU ARE GROWING WEAR FROM FIGHTING LOSING BATTLES
- WHEN YOU ARE FINALLY WAKING UP IN YOUR FAITH, BUT YOUR FRIENDS/FAMILY AREN'T

BRENNAN MANNING—WOMAN ON THE BEACH

NO MATTER WHERE YOU GO, GOD IS ALREADY THERE