



SUNDAY 7TH JULY 2024

Sermon Title: Fruit of the Spirit “ Faithfulness”

Bible Reading: Daniel Ch 1 and Ch 6 : 4

Preacher: Ps Paul Curtis

Outline:

- **Daniel remained faithful to God in all things (6: 4)**
- **He realised that God’s name had already suffered damage (1:1-2)**
- **So God created an opportunity for him to display faithfulness (1:6-8)**
- **Daniel’s faithfulness had great influence on those around him (1: 9-18)**
- **As it turned out, Daniel’s trust was honoured by God (1: 19-21)**

Small Group Questions/Discussions

You have to admire the consistency of Daniel's faithfulness. What stands out for you when you consider his decision not to eat the king's food, and then later on – not praying to the king? How do you think you might have responded to these challenges? How would we most likely justify our decisions if we had faltered? Faithfulness always comes at a cost – there are easier alternatives. Why is it important to keep the big picture in mind?

Like love, the challenge of faithfulness is that we keep growing in it. We all love, we all show faith, but God wants us to keep growing in these fruits. What does growth look like for you, when it comes to love and faithfulness?

Unfaithfulness to God meant that His name suffered greatly when His people went into exile. Why is faithfulness so important to our witness? Why is this even more critical when we are facing difficult circumstances?

Daniel was under the spotlight. He was a part of a select group. Discuss the influence he would have had amongst all those officials who were aware of his stand against the unclean food. How did Daniel's faithfulness create a great opportunity? How can our own faithfulness impact family friends etc? Discuss how this can be a positive aspect of life's significant challenges.

As it turned out – God was faithful. Daniel was honoured and God's name was restored. What attitude did Daniel display with the food, and even more so, in the Lions' den, that inspires you to keep growing in faithfulness?