

Title: Keys to lasting influence: integrity

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Daniel

Intimacy (closeness with God – prayer)

Identity (not accepting the labels of this world)

Integrity (favour and honour)

Intercession (passionate prayer)

Interpretation (walking in wisdom)

Daniel 1: 8-10 ⁸⁻¹⁰ But Daniel determined that he would not defile himself by eating the king's food or drinking his wine, so he asked the head of the palace staff to exempt him from the royal diet. The head of the palace staff, by God's grace, liked Daniel, but he warned him, "I'm afraid of what my master the king will do. He is the one who assigned this diet and if he sees that you are not as healthy as the rest, he'll have my head!"

Daniel 1:9 (ESV) ⁹ And God gave Daniel favour and compassion in the sight of the chief of the eunuchs,

Genesis 39:21(ESV) ²¹ " But the Lord was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love and gave him favour in the sight of the keeper of the prison.

Favour

5485 /xáris ("grace") answers directly to the Hebrew (OT) term 2580/Kaná ("grace, extension-toward"). Both refer to God freely extending Himself (His favor, grace), reaching (inclining) to people because He is disposed to bless (be near) them.

(Strong's Concordance)

Favour

1. Comes from the Lord;
2. Presence of God brings favour;
3. Favour is given for influence.
4. We can increase our favour.

Genesis 39:21(ESV) ²¹ But the Lord was with Joseph and showed him steadfast love and *gave him favour*

(God, Himself in close proximity, ready to bless) in the sight of the keeper of the prison.

Acts 7:9-11(NKJV) ⁹⁻¹¹ "And the patriarchs, becoming envious, sold Joseph into Egypt. But *God was with him* ¹⁰ and delivered him out of all his troubles, and *gave him favor* and wisdom in the presence of Pharaoh, king of Egypt; and he made him governor over Egypt and all his house. ¹¹ Now a famine and great trouble came over all the land of Egypt and Canaan, and our fathers found no sustenance...

Luke 2:51-52(NKJV) ⁵¹ Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them, but His mother kept all these things in her heart. ⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and men

Favour is progressive

Honour unlocks more favour

Proverbs 3:3-4(NLT) ³ Never let loyalty and kindness leave you!

Tie them around your neck as a reminder.

Write them deep within your heart.

⁴ Then you will find favor with both God and people, and you will earn a good reputation.

Position yourself for more favour

Daniel 1:9-10 ⁹ Now God had brought Daniel into the favour and goodwill of the chief of the eunuchs. ¹⁰ And the chief of the eunuchs said to Daniel, "I fear my lord the king, who has appointed you food and drink. For why should he see your faces looking worse than the young men who *are* your age? Then you would endanger my head before the king.

Daniel 1:11-13 ¹¹ So Daniel said to the steward whom the chief of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, ¹² "Please test your servants for ten days, and let them give us vegetables to eat and water to drink. ¹³ Then let our appearance be examined before you, and the appearance of the young men who eat the portion of the king's delicacies; and as you see fit, so deal with your servants."

Daniel 1:14-16 ¹⁴ So he consented with them in this matter, and tested them ten days. ¹⁵ And at the end of ten days their features appeared better and fatter in flesh than all the young men who ate the portion of the king's delicacies. ¹⁶ Thus the steward took away their portion of delicacies and the wine that they were to drink, and gave them vegetables.

Daniel 1:18-19 ¹⁸ Now at the end of the days, when the king had said that they should be brought in, the chief of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar. ¹⁹ Then the king interviewed them, and among them all none was found like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah; therefore they served before the king.

Favor for influence

Daniel and his friends;

The other interns;

The HR manager (steward);

The General manager (eunuch);

The CEO (the king).

First things first.

¹ I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. ² Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity. ³ This is good and pleases God our Savior, ⁴ who wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth