

## **Embodying our Christian Identity (distinctiveness)**

IBC is a melting pot of race, cultures and ethnicities. Many of these share common values but there are also special qualities, style or characteristics that are peculiar to each race, culture or ethnic group. These distinguish one group from the other .... these are their distinctives!

There are also many religions in the world, but there are many distinctives that make Christianity to stand out. (Name some Christian distinctives mentioned in the sermon). It is God's intention that we embody, i.e. live out these out (1 Peter 2:11-12). It is God's desire that we stand out and stand tall, like lighthouses or hill top cities ... but are we? Daniel and his three friends did stand out in their generation. We can learn from them.

### **Questions for discussion:**

- 1) Read Daniel 1:1-end and Leviticus 11:46-47.
  - a) Why did Daniel and his three friends decide not to eat from the King's table. (Kosher meat?)
  - b) What was at stake here? Daniel 1:3-5, 8-10.
  - c) Obeying God's word was apparently the number one priority of these young men. Discuss how this fact motivated their decision.
  
- 2) Name some good and well intentioned priorities that typically compete for the number one spot in our lives. How should we react to these in light of Luke 14:25-33 (preferably in NLT version).
  
- 3) Why is it worth it to embody (live out) our Christian distinctiveness (identity)? Psalm 1: 1-3; Matt. 19:28-29.