

Devoted: Don't Give Up

Daniel 4

Daniel 4:1-3

King Nebuchadnezzar to all peoples, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth: Peace be multiplied to you! It has seemed good to me to show the signs and wonders that the Most High God has done for me. How great are his signs, how mighty his wonders! His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and his dominion endures from generation to generation.

Daniel 4:34-37

At the end of the days I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my reason returned to me, and I blessed the Most High, and praised and honored him who lives forever, for his dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom endures from generation to generation; all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and he does according to his will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand or say to him, "What have you done?" At the same time my reason returned to me, and for the glory of my kingdom, my majesty and splendor returned to me. My counselors and my lords sought me, and I was established in my kingdom, and still more greatness was added to me. Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, for all his works are right and his ways are just; and those who walk in pride he is able to humble.

God is at work and inviting you to join him in his kingdom and his kingdom work

"It is not humility to underrate yourself. Humility is to think of yourself as God thinks of you. It is to feel that if we have talents God has given them to us. And let it be seen that, like freight in a vessel, they tend to sink us low. The more we have, the lower we ought to lie."

-Charles Spurgeon

God Is Still Writing Your Story

- ? In what ways is God inviting you to join in his kingdom work?
- ? What's a gospel? The gospel? Give your gospel message to the group.
- ? Nebuchadnezzar was afraid and sought divine wisdom. What makes you afraid of the unknown? What is God's response to those fears?
- ? Describe a way in which God has edited or is editing your life?
- ? Is there a difference between who you think you are vs. who God says you are? Why or why not? Why does it matter?
- ? Do you struggle with humility? How would you know if you were struggling with pride?
- ? What does it mean to "speak the truth in love?" What are the consequences when we speak the truth but fail to do it in love?

- ? What does it mean to fear the Lord? What are some ways we could apply the fear of the Lord in daily living?
- ? What's the most difficult truth you've ever had to tell? What's the most difficult truth you've ever had to receive?
- ? What is cultural relativism? If no one is familiar with this concept, investigate it as a group.
- ? Is the Holy Spirit calling you to start something new today?
- ? Have you tried behavior modification in the past? What was the result?
- ? Do you need to confess your sins to others, or is God alone sufficient? Support your answer with Scripture.
- ? Whose work is it to preach the gospel trained clergy or the church at large? How do you define preaching? How does the Bible define preaching?
- ? Is it God's will to bring awakening and revival? Why or why not?
- ? Have you asked God to be an instrument for bringing revival? Why or why not?
- ? Have you ever used your testimony to share the gospel? If not, why?
- ? Have you ever considered that it's God who has established you in your neighborhood, job, and church? How does this change the way you think about those venues?

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2:2-11