

Sermon-Based Discussion Guide

Date 10/6/24 Bryce Taylor

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BIBLE PASSAGES - Daniel 4:1-3, 7-8, 11-47

Daniel 4:1 King Nebuchadnezzar, To the nations and peoples of every language, who live in all the earth: May you prosper greatly! **2** It is my pleasure to tell you about the miraculous signs and wonders that the Most High God has performed for me. **3** How great are his signs, how mighty his wonders! His kingdom is an eternal kingdom; his dominion endures from generation to generation.

7 When the magicians, enchanters, astrologers^[b] and diviners came, I told them the dream, but they could not interpret it for me. **8** Finally, Daniel came into my presence and I told him the dream...

11 The tree grew large and strong and its top touched the sky; it was visible to the ends of the earth. I looked, and there before me was a holy one, a messenger, coming down from heaven. **14** He called in a loud voice: 'Cut down the tree and trim off its branches; strip off its leaves and scatter its fruit. Let the animals flee from under it and the birds from its branches. **15** But let the stump and its roots, bound with iron and bronze, remain in the ground, in the grass of the field.

"Let him be drenched with the dew of heaven, and let him live with the animals among the plants of the earth. **16** Let his mind be changed from that of a man and let him be given the mind of an animal, till seven times pass by for him. **17** "The decision is announced by messengers, the holy ones declare the verdict, so that the living may know that the Most High is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and gives them to anyone he wishes and sets over them the lowliest of people.'

Other Passages: John 17:14-18, Isaiah 64:6, Rev. 14:8, Pro. 16:18, 2 Cor. 3:16-18, Dan. 3:17-18,

Connect:

Get to know each other. Connect, warm up to each other, and take time to fellowship.

Care:

Carry each other's burdens. Share life's challenges and practice Soul Care. Pray together.

Challenge:

- 1) As a group, do you practice confession with each other? What would it look like to incorporate a time of repentance with each other like John and James describe (1 John 1:9, James 5:16).
- 2) Last week you wrote down your, "even if... God is still God," list. How did the reminder of God being still in control and still good change how you approached the week? Did you think of that at all? If yes, share how. If not, consider ways you can daily allow that truth to change how you approach each day.
- 3) Are you holding God to something true, or do you need to let it go? Do you expect him to be a genie granting your wishes or a sovereign King?
- 4) Take a moment and think about your day yesterday, or the day before. How did you spend your day? Be honest, what took your time? What did you worship?
- 5) *Empire* says do whatever you want with your time, build your own kingdom. Yet, the King says, repent, be transformed? What do you need to remove from your life to repent and be transformed?

Clarify:

Does anyone need clarity on something? Are there any big God questions you are wrestling with?

Celebrate:

Celebrate life's successes and God's provision. Worship God's presence. Time to brag about God.

KEY TAKEAWAYS