

Week of March 12, 2017

Questions for Ohana Living in Babylon: Who Rules? Daniel 4

ICE BREAKER: What is one of your favorite trees? --OR--
Have you recently been blessed (rained on and drenched)?

A. Read Daniel 4:1-3 and 34 - 35

1. What descriptive words does the king use to describe “The King” and His Kingdom?
2. Who is he speaking to in verses 1-3? Who is he speaking to in verses 34- 35? Have someone read dramatically v. 34-35 the way you think the king said these verses.
3. Why is this a surprising thing to hear from King Nebuchadnezzar? What powerful people today would you be surprised to hear say similar words of praise to God?

B. Read Daniel 4:4-9

1. How is the king’s countenance contrasted from before the dream (verse 4) with after the dream (verse 5)?
2. What was the king’s understanding of Daniel’s special ability?

C. Read Daniel 4:10-17

1. Using pencils draw a group picture of the tree in the vision including all the descriptions on a large piece of paper.
2. Rip apart the picture leaving only the stump and roots.
3. What are the three things about God the messengers wanted the king to know about God?

D. Read Daniel 4:18–27

1. Summarize Daniel’s interpretation of the dream?
2. What was Daniel’s advice to the king?

E. Read Daniel 4:28- 37

1. What was wrong with what the king did in verses 28-30? Give examples of this kind of arrogance in our culture today.
2. What are some of the ways pride has shown itself in your life this week? List at least 10.
3. Read verse 37 out loud. Why is pride and arrogance so dangerous? How is 1 Peter 5:5-6 demonstrated in this story?

APPLICATION

Reread verse 30 changing it to be the way the king *should have spoken giving God the credit*. What are areas of accomplishment that God has done through you? In pairs try to describe your successes to your partner for 2 minutes (set a stop watch) without using the words “I” or “my” and instead using God’s names.

(E.g. God helped us to begin a business. His business has now grown and He has blessed the community . . . or . . . God gave us three children and gave us a heart and ability to love them, even though it was difficult...)

PRAY as a Group

Read verse 37 in unity, putting the word “we” in place of “I Nebuchadnezzar”. E.g. “Now we praise and exalt and ...”

Ask God to reveal hidden areas of pride and to help you speak in such a way as to give Him the glory.