

Daniel 4

Text: Daniel 4

Purpose: Even though King Nebuchadnezzar experienced God through his relationship with Daniel, it took personal suffering for his heart to change. The Babylonian king experienced insanity, but God showed his mercy, and King Nebuchadnezzar personally experienced Daniel's God after a time of personal suffering.

Opening Question: Have you ever been embarrassed? Are you willing to share your story?

Read and Discuss: Daniel 4

1. In this passage, what details seem important? Does anything jump out at you?
2. What is the author communicating to the audience?
3. What does this passage teach us about God?
4. One way to describe the King's experience is with the word *humiliation*. Why is humiliation a powerful experience, in general?
5. Have you ever been humiliated? What did the Lord show you through that?
6. Do you agree that Jesus experienced humiliation? In what ways can our faith in Him mix with humiliating experiences?
7. King Nebuchadnezzar seems reluctant to change, and eager to hold onto his kingdom. Can you think of anything you'd prefer to hold onto, but God might want you to hold loosely?

Calvary Season of Prayer: Petition

I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people — for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.. (1 Timothy 2:1-2)

- In this season of Petition, please take a few minutes with your group to pray and ask God to build and support our church.
- Take a few minutes together to pray for...
 - A political leader or a professional one, or a religious one. All those in authority need prayer, because they all are responsible to God for their leadership.
 - Pray for a political leader without thinking of a particular issue - instead, pray for God to work in them as we seek to live out our calling.
 - Pray for the leaders of our church as they are responsible for shepherding God's mission.