

STAND – WEEK 2

ATTENTION ON DECK

Daniel 4

ATTENTION ON DECK

Honor

Courage

Commitment

Standing up shows respect.

Today's message is really about obedience.

Standing Up When the Authority of God walks into the room.

Standing up in the world = pride/ego/aggression

Standing up means honor and the courage to remain committed to the authority (chain of command).

It's one thing to say you respect the officer/God.

It's another thing to stand up when they walk in.

It's one thing to believe something privately.

It's another thing to stand up for it publicly.

It's one thing to hold convictions quietly.

It's another thing to speak when silence would be easier.

Standing up means:

- Risking the relationship
- Risking being misunderstood
- Risking being labeled
- Risking being rejected

“Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.”

—Proverbs 4:23 NIV

Everything you do
Everything you stand for
Everything you believe
Everything you value

Flows from your heart.

We must guard:

- The Word of God
- The truth God has spoken
- The convictions He has planted
- The prophetic word over our lives

When the Word of God is secure in your heart...

When it would be easier to sit down...

Stand up.

Not for yourself.

But for the Most High God.

ATTENTION ON DECK

DANIEL GUARDS HIS HEART

“I, Nebuchadnezzar, was at home in my palace, contented and prosperous. I had a dream that made me afraid. As I was lying in bed, the images and visions that passed through my mind terrified me.”

—Daniel 4:4–5 NIV

THE DREAM (Daniel 4:6–12)

A massive tree

Strong

Tall

Reaching to the heavens

Visible across the whole earth

It provides food

It provides shade

It provides life

“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. 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. 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.’”

—Daniel 4:14–16 NIV

“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.”

—Daniel 4:17 NIV

Daniel must decide: Protect himself or **Stand up**

“Then Daniel (also called Belteshazzar) was greatly perplexed for a time, and his thoughts terrified him...”

—Daniel 4:19a NIV

He wasn't excited.

He wasn't eager.

He was burdened.

God is Almighty.

Pride always falls.

DANIEL STANDS WITH COMPASSION

“My lord, if only this dream applied to your enemies.”

—Daniel 4:19b NIV

Not ego

Not arrogance

Not trying to win an argument

Just a deep conviction to the Word of God.

“Your Majesty, you are that tree! You have become great and strong; your greatness has grown until it reaches the sky, and your dominion extends to distant parts of the earth.”

—Daniel 4:22 NIV

He didn't soften it.
He didn't generalize it.
He didn't hide the truth.
He stood up.

Two Unhealthy Extremes

Avoiders

“It's none of my business.”
“That's between them and God.”
“I don't want drama.”

But silence is not always love.
If a child is running toward traffic...
You don't whisper.
You shout.

Love sometimes requires confrontation.

Aggressors

Harsh
Public
Embarrassing
Reactionary

They call it boldness.

But it's pride.

The Third Way

Truth delivered with sorrow

Truth delivered with compassion

Truth delivered because someone matters

Truth without love becomes brutality.

Love without truth becomes cowardice.

DANIEL SPEAKS THE PROPHETIC WORD

“Renounce your sins by doing what is right... and your wickedness by being kind to the oppressed.”

—Daniel 4:27 NIV

Repent

Turn

Be restored

Have hope

Standing up for the Word of God:

Isn't just calling something wrong
It's pointing someone toward what's right

GOD DEFENDS THOSE WHO STAND

“All this happened to King Nebuchadnezzar. Twelve months later, as the king was walking on the roof of the royal palace of Babylon, he said, ‘Is not this the great Babylon I have built as the royal residence, by my mighty power and for the glory of my majesty?’”

—Daniel 4:28–30 NIV

He refused to honor God.
He refused to snap to attention.

“Even as the words were on his lips, a voice came from heaven, ‘This is what is decreed for you, King Nebuchadnezzar: Your royal authority has been taken from you. You will be driven away from people and will live with the wild animals; you will eat grass like the ox. Seven times will pass by for you until you acknowledge that the Most High is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and gives them to anyone he wishes.’”

—Daniel 4:31–32 NIV

The king loses his sanity.
Pride always gets in the way of obedience.

THE HOPE

“At the end of that time, I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven, and my sanity was restored. Then I praised the Most High; I honored and glorified him who lives forever. His dominion is an eternal dominion; his kingdom endures from generation to generation.”

—Daniel 4:34 NIV

“At the same time that my sanity was restored, my honor and splendor were returned to me for the glory of my kingdom. My advisers and nobles sought me out, and I was restored to my throne and became even greater than before. Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, because everything he does is right and all his ways are just. And those who walk in pride he is able to humble.”

—Daniel 4:36–37 NIV

Because Daniel stood up — the king looked up.

Daniel could not control the timeline.

He could not control the outcome.

But he could control obedience.

We are not responsible for outcomes.

We are responsible for obedience.

Your Job?

Stand Up — ATTENTION ON DECK

FINAL CHALLENGE

Where do you need to stand up?

- In your home
- In your marriage
- With your children
- With a friend
- Against compromise
- Against pride in your own heart

When it would be easier to sit down...

Stand up

When silence would be safer...

Stand up

When truth feels costly...

Stand up

ATTENTION ON DECK

STAND — WEEK 2

STAND UP

It's one thing to believe something. It's another thing to stand up for it.

BIG IDEA

Standing up for truth requires courage rooted in love and obedience to God.

SCRIPTURE PATH

 Daniel 4:19

Standing Up Is Costly

Standing for truth often risks relationships, reputation, and comfort.

Daniel 4:19

 Daniel 4:27

Silence Is Not Always Love

Avoiding difficult truth may feel peaceful but can allow destruction to continue.

Proverbs 27:6


 Daniel 4:34

 John 16:31-33

Truth Must Be Spoken With Love

Courage in the Kingdom is not aggression or avoidance—it is courageous love.

Ephesians 4:15

 Ephesians 3:20-21

WORD STUDY

Courage

Greek: *tharseō*

To be confident, bold, and take heart.

Biblical courage is faith-filled confidence in God.

Standing Up Points Toward Restoration

Daniel didn't only warn the king—he offered a path to repentance and restoration.

Daniel 4:27

Obedience Matters More Than Outcomes

We are responsible for obedience; God is responsible for the results.

Daniel 4:34-37

PERSONAL REFLECTION

- ▶ Why is it often easier to stay silent rather than confront something unhealthy?
- ▶ How can we speak truth in ways that reflect both courage and love?

GROUP DISCUSSION

- ▶ Ask God to reveal one place where courage is needed this week.
- ▶ Pray for wisdom before difficult conversations.
- ▶ Choose obedience to God even when it feels uncomfortable.

When it would be easier to sit down—
Stand up.

STAND – WEEK 2

STAND UP

Standing up for truth requires courage, humility, and love.
Faith does not stay silent when restoration is needed.

SCRIPTURE SPINE



Daniel 4:19

Daniel was troubled by the message he must deliver.



Daniel 4:27

“Renounce your sins by doing what is right...”



Galatians 6:1

Restore others gently.



Matthew 18:15

Address sin directly.



Ephesians 4:15

Speak the truth in love.

COURAGEOUS LOVE

Many fall into extremes:

- Avoiding conflict
- Confronting harshly

In the Kingdom, courage means speaking truth with humility and seeking restoration.

PERSONAL REFLECTION

- Where have you avoided hard conversations?
- Are you more conflict-avoidant or confrontational?
- Who needs loving truth in your life?

COURAGEOUS LOVE

Many fall into extremes:

- Avoiding conflict
- Confronting harshly

KEY STATEMENTS

- Truth without love is brutality.
- Love without truth is cowardice.
- Standing up is speaking truth when silence would be easier.

BIBLICAL CONTEXT

Daniel confronted King Nebuchadnezzar about his prideful dream.

Daniel chose courage, not comfort.

His goal was not to condemn but to restore.

WORD STUDY

- **Restore** – *Katartizo*
 - To mend, repair, set right
 - Back to proper alignment

GROUP DISCUSSION

- Why do we confuse silence with love?
- How did Daniel show courage and humility?
- How can we confront with restoration as the goal?

When silence would be easier, stand up with courage and love.