

Exiled Kingdom

TEXT: Daniel 4-5

ANNOUNCEMENTS



- **Last call: Male Mentors Needed:** If you'd like to serve in our city as a mentor to an at-risk middle school boy, please contact Jeff Marshall (252-314-7477). Meeting before the cookout next Sunday, at 3:45 at the park.
 - **Fall at the Park/Chili Cook-off:** Sunday, October 14, 4:30pm-6:30pm. See church email or bulletin for more details.
 - **Serving as a group with the Connect Team** – Leaders, please share what Sunday your group is assigned to serve.
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LEADING OFF...

1. Share about a time when you changed your mind about something.
2. What does repentance really mean?
3. What is the Kingdom of God?

BIG IDEA: Kingdom citizens repent.

Read Daniel 4:1-3

4. Who is writing this chapter?
5. Does this sound like the same king who worshipped the Babylonian gods? What happened to him?

Read Daniel 4:4-8; 10-17

6. What is taking place here?
7. Do you think Daniel is alarmed and afraid at this summons?
8. How would you feel?
9. Why does Daniel call Nebuchadnezzar to repentance?
10. Though he knew the risks, Daniel calls out Nebuchadnezzar's sins, and calls him to repentance. Why is calling one another to repentance so important?
11. Why are we often afraid to do this?
12. How can this be a regular rhythm of a church, and your Life Group?

Read Daniel 4:24-27

13. What is the message Daniel is giving to the king?
14. Are we really that different from Nebuchadnezzar? Why or why not?
15. Why do we tend to see our sins as, "not that bad"?
16. How are we called to repentance?
17. What is the measure of true repentance?

Read Daniel 4:31-33

18. What is revealed to us here about Nebuchadnezzar's heart?
19. How is this a call to repentance for each of us?

Read Daniel 4:34;36

20. How is this a picture of repentance?
21. How did the king's reasoning and his kingdom return to him, and what does this speak to us about the Lord's work in our lives?

30 years later...

Read Daniel 5:1-6

22. How is King Belshazzar mocking God?
23. Look over verses 13-16. How is the king now mocking Daniel?

Read Daniel 5:22-23

24. How does Daniel call out the king?
25. Who is the focus of Daniel's proclamation?

Read Daniel 5:25-31

26. Why was the kingdom stripped from Belshazzar?
27. What does sin do to us?

WRAPPING UP...Read Daniel

28. Compare and contrast these two kings. What stands out to you?
29. What do we learn from these two kings?
30. How is true repentance not just avoiding judgment but turning to the one true King Jesus?
31. How might you respond if someone comes to you, pointing out sin in your life that you should repent of?