



**MONTEREY  
CHURCH**  
TRUTH . LOVE . POWER

## **SMALL GROUPS MINISTRY DISCUSSION GUIDE**

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**WELCOME** Share about a great leader you admire. What made them great?

**WORSHIP** Listen to "His Glory My Good" - CityAlight  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d5nUTO4m9oA>

**WORD** *Message Title: Babylon: In It, Not of It | "Not By Might, Nor By Power, But By My Spirit" (Part 7) by Pastor Bryan James, 12/28/2025*  
*Scriptures: Daniel 5*

1. What part of the message uniquely spoke to you this week? Why?
2. Compare the leadership and reign of King Nebuchadnezzar and King Belshazzar in Daniel 5. What do these 2 Babylonian kings teach us about God and his view of legitimate and lawful leadership?
3. What is evidence that a leader is legitimate and lawful in the eyes of God? What circumstances can turn a legitimate and lawful leader into an illegitimate, unlawful one?
4. "Read the writing on the wall." Pastor Bryan shared a prophetic message for 2026. What is God saying? What stood out to you most?
5. For those who need encouragement, how did this prophetic word comfort and encourage you?
6. Reflection. Is it possible you stand as an obstacle to the will of God - what is the prophetic warning and even encouragement he gives (hint: message title)?
7. How can you faithfully respond to Sunday's message?

### **DIGGING DEEPER - INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY (IBS)**

For those studying *Daniel* using the IBS method, what additional insights did you gain through Observation, Interpretation, and Application (OIA) of the text?

**WITNESS** Pray and ask the Lord to give you the wisdom, courage and conviction to share Truth with someone this week.

**CLOSING PRAYER & INTERCESSION** Share prayer requests and pray for one another.  
Allow space to wait and listen for God to speak, as you pray.