



**MONTEREY
CHURCH**
TRUTH . LOVE . POWER

SMALL GROUPS MINISTRY DISCUSSION GUIDE

Announcements / Upcoming Events

- *Board of Supervisors Meeting, 12/11 @ 6:30pm*
- *Women's Christmas Gathering, 12/13 @10:30am*

WELCOME

What is a personal accomplishment that makes you proud?

WORSHIP

Read Psalm 24 or Listen to "Holy Forever (Christmas)" - Chris Tomlin
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aC2LUPJ3dOk>

WORD

Message Title: Babylon: In It, Not of It | "Sooner or Later, God Will Cut your Down" (Part 6) by Pastor Bryan James, 11/30/2025

Scriptures: Daniel 4

1. What part of the message or Scripture stood out to you this week? Why?
2. Define (human) sovereignty. Compare that with the absolute sovereignty of God.
3. Read vv. 28-30. What character quality is shown in Nebuchadnezzar that God hates? How is this quality different than having confidence? How can you appreciate your accomplishments/gifts without pride or putting yourself down?
3. Read vv. 31-33. In God's love, to bring the us out of pride, he will cut us down (bring crisis) for a time, as He did with Nebuchadnezzar. What is God's ultimate purpose for cutting him/us down? What does this tell you about God's character/nature?
4. Reference vv. 20-23. What "tree" of yours has been cut down and to what do you attribute that? Did you learn anything about yourself and God's authority and power through your crisis? How did it change you?
5. Observe the way Daniel addresses the king in verses 19 and 27, tactfully and respectfully. How do you think the manner in which he addressed Nebuchadnezzar affected the King's final response (v. 37) to his interpretation?
6. Like Daniel, how have you shown courage (and tact) in declaring God's word to others, both good and bad news? What gave you the courage and conviction to act?
7. What is God impressing upon you most through this message? Does the Word bring conviction, encouragement or both?

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 and courage and conviction to share Truth with someone this week, with the same tact and respect as Daniel showed the King.

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