



**MONTEREY  
CHURCH**  
TRUTH . LOVE . POWER

## **SMALL GROUPS MINISTRY DISCUSSION GUIDE**

### **Announcements / Upcoming Events**

- OCC Shoebox Collection (2 more weeks!)
- Reset180 Gala, Fri 11/14 (2 spots left)

## **WELCOME**

What is the most memorable or unusual dream you have ever had?

## **WORSHIP**

*Read Psalm 111 or Listen to "Rise with the Sun" - CityAlight*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UG-Fz6ilo44>

## **WORD**

*Message Title: Babylon: In It, Not of It | "God Speaks Through Dreams" (Part 3) by Pastor Bryan James, 11/9/2024*

*Scriptures: Daniel 2. See also Matthew 5:13-16; Joel 2:28-29.*

1. What part of the message or Scripture uniquely spoke to you this week? Why?
2. *Read Matt. 5:13-16.* Discuss what it means to be "salt" and "light" in today's culture; compare how Daniel and the Israelites were called to do the same in Babylon.
3. Daniel was written in Aramaic and Hebrew; the Aramaic portion begins at 2:4 through 7:28. What was Daniel's (God's) purpose in using Aramaic?

### ***Read Daniel 2:1-3 and discuss the following:***

4. In the ancient world, the spiritual realm was always at the forefront. Has the modern era led to an unenlightened culture in which Christians may read the Word like a "recipe book," approach prayer like a liturgy, or despise the supernatural, mysterious things of God (e.g., prophecy, dreams, visions)? Have you seen evidence of this? What is your current personal experience?

### ***Read verses 4-24 and discuss the following:***

5. How does God sovereignly use Nebuchadnezzar's dream as the crisis to create a platform for Daniel? What was important to God for the King of Babylon to understand through this crisis?
  - For the remnant church, do you think that our platform and greatest impact will come soon, in a time of crisis? Why or why not? What would that look like?
6. Consider Daniel's example of faith and trust in God to speak personally & provide the supernatural wisdom and answers that would ultimately save him and his friends. How did Daniel respond to God's grace? Do you have a similar story? Share it!

7. **Application.** Read Joel 2:28-29 and Galatians 3:3 Have you lost full faith in the supernatural and the mystery of what it is to be in a relationship with God—the *intimacy, power* and *relevance*—through the power of the Holy Spirit. What can you do this week to "fan the flame" of the Spirit in you and intimately seek God?

***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? Share with the group:

- What insights did you gain about God, yourself and/or your circumstances?
- How would God have you apply what you learned to your life today?

**WITNESS** Consider the choices you make throughout the week that would be a witness for God's ways vs. the world's. Ask the Lord to use you to be salt and light and for opportunity to share your 'why' and the hope you have.

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