

# EXILE

*The Book of Daniel*

## CONVERSATION STARTER

In this land of exile, many are searching for personal happiness apart from Christ. Where do people in our culture search to find happiness? Where are you personally tempted to find happiness in anything other than Christ?

## DEEPER

### Read: Daniel 5

1. Reflect on Belshazzar's action of using the sacred vessels for his feast. How might this apply to the misuse of sacred things in today's context?
2. How does Daniel's interpretation of the King's dream reflect God's sovereignty and judgment?
3. In what ways can we apply the lessons from the fall of Belshazzar to our own lives today?
4. Pastor Josh said in his sermon, "It's quite common in our land of exile for people to party on the edge of their grave — believing that they've built impenetrable walls of security around them." Are you able to relate with this personally? In what ways?
5. How do we see this theme of partying on the edge of the grave played out in other areas of Scripture? What was the result?
6. Pastor Josh also said, "Think of all that Daniel's done for the nation of Babylon — how he faithfully served Nebuchadnezzar. And yet, not long after Nebuchadnezzar's death, all of that work's been lost. May this remind us of the calling we have to hand off our faith to the next generation." How are you currently investing in the next generation? What daily and weekly rhythms have you adopted in training up the next generation in your household and/or in our church family?
7. How does this chapter in Daniel point us to Jesus?
8. What were your biggest takeaways from the message? What stood out to you the most?

## NOTES

## DISCIPLINES

**Pray:** That we would have a zeal for God and that he would focus our hearts on him, rather than to party our days away on the edge of the grave.

**Read:** Romans 1

**Write:** Write down the current idols in your life that you need to get rid of in your life in order to more intentionally focus on God's will for your life.

**Sing:** Listen to the worship songs from Sunday throughout the week. Look up the lyrics to each song and spend some time reading them as well.

**Memorize:** A verse in Scripture that warns you against the sin of idolatry.

**Love:** Share the love of Christ with a friend or family member this week.