

Main Idea: God's sovereignty is a wonderful gift that lessens our anxiety and frees us from needing an explanation.

Incarnation

We call the birth of Jesus the "Incarnation." The word means "God in flesh." In the human person of Jesus was Eternal God. He appeared as normal as anyone, but Jesus was both human and divine. He was God incarnate.

Sovereignty

Over the course of Jesus's life, He demonstrated His power and authority over the natural laws of the universe. Throughout His ministry Jesus walked on water, healed the sick, and even raised the dead. But God's sovereignty is most eloquently displayed in the timing of the birth of Jesus (see Galatians 4:4-5).

For thousands of years God had been preparing the way. Now, at just the right moment in time, Jesus was born. Only a sovereign Creator could orchestrate this critical moment in time. When we say that God is sovereign we are saying that He is the supreme and ultimate power and authority. No one (nothing) is above or beyond Him.

Daniel and Nebuchadnezzar

Most of Daniel 4 centers around a disturbing dream the king had and his desperate attempt to interpret the dream. Daniel is brought in to help the king. Not only does Daniel interpret the dream but he speaks boldly and bluntly to the prideful king. Nebuchadnezzar thought he was sovereign. He is about to learn otherwise. The king lost his mind. He lived like an animal in the wild. Only after acknowledging God's sovereignty was the king's sanity restored.

Q: Why do I care?

So why do I care? What difference does it make? God is sovereign. What a beautifully practical thought! God's sovereignty matters because I am his child! Job said it matters for at least two reasons (see Job 42:2-3):

1. **God's sovereignty relieves me from anxiety.** He is in complete control.
2. **God's sovereignty frees me from needing an explanation.** There are some things I simply cannot understand.

It's incredibly liberating! Allow yourself to be blessed by these conclusions. No purpose of God's can ever be thwarted. That means I don't have to be anxious about everything and I don't always need an explanation.

Family Night Big Idea

You want your children to appreciate God's sovereignty. He is in control. Everything that happens is somehow connected to God's eternal plan.

Discussion Starter – Read Daniel 4:19-34

- **Elementary School** – Ask, "Why did the king need Daniel's help?" Ask, "What happened to the king?" Ask, "In the end, what did the king learn about God?"
- **Middle/ High School** – Ask, "What was the great sin of Nebuchadnezzar?" Ask, "What lesson was God trying to teach Nebuchadnezzar?" Ask, "How does knowing that God is in control of your circumstances help you?"

Prayer

"Father, thank You for being sovereign. We want to live more courageously knowing that You are in charge. Amen.

Velocity (Middle and High School Students)

Velocity: The Hunt this Wednesday.

Gravity: Not Today

Today's Songs

God Really Loves Us.....Crowder

How Awesome is the Lord Most High.....Chris Tomlin

Graves into Gardens.....Elevation Worship

Christmas for Families

You will find the wish lists in the lobby for six families that we are helping with Christmas gifts. If you would like to buy a gift, please sign your name and number on the list. You will need to wrap your gift and attach a removable tag with the family information that identifies your gift. All gifts are due at church on December 18th. Thank you!

Deck the Halls

Please mark your calendar to attend our annual "Deck the Halls" on December 4th. The fun starts at 4:30. Wear your pajamas and bring your sleeping bag. Pictures will be made outside by the toddler playground.

Poinsettia Sale

Poinsettias are on sale today. If you would like to purchase one in honor or memory of a loved one, please sign up and pay in the lobby. Cost is \$30 and the proceeds go to help the Boy's Home in Register. We would like to display them on the stage through the holidays. Last day to order is November TODAY. Thank you!