

GROWTH GUIDE

For you. Your family. Your group.

DANIEL: SHINING IN THE DARKNESS
WRITING ON THE WALL | DANIEL 5
FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 12, 2023

SERMON OUTLINE

1. We are clouded in our thinking when we minimize sin's danger
2. We are hurt by our own actions when we misuse God's gifts.
3. We are drawn to our God when we experience His patience.
4. We are strengthened in our hearts when we remember God's justice.

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Looking back at the passage and your notes, what was something that you heard for the first time, caught your attention, challenged you, or you have questions about?
2. What transpired in the 30 years between Daniel 4 and Daniel 5? Who is Belshazzar in relationship to Neb? How does the historical context help us understand Daniel 5?
3. How do we minimize the danger of sin in our lives? Give examples of the types of things we do, think, or say when we downplay sin.
4. Name some things God has given us as a good gift that we also might similarly misuse or take advantage of. Once we've identified something like this in our life, do we have to get rid of that thing? Or how should we respond?
5. How do you respond to displays of God's justice like the story of Daniel 5? Why does it tend to make people uncomfortable? How instead should these displays strengthen us for day-to-day life?

BREAKOUT DISCUSSION

1. Where are you minimizing the danger of sin in your life? What do you need to do to help you see it as damaging as it actually is?
2. How are you doing at stewarding your time, talents, and physical body? If there's room for growth, give one way God is calling you to repent from or to change how you have been using what God has given you.

PRAYER POINTS

1. Praise God that when we see injustice, we can rely on God's promise to make all things right.
2. Pray we would give generously and sacrificially to the work God is doing.
3. Ask God to help us use our time, talents, and treasures God has given us to glorify Him.