# **GROWTH GUIDE**

For you. Your family. Your group.

DANIEL: SHINING IN THE DARKNESS VISIONS OF THE THRONE | DANIEL 7-8 FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 26, 2023

# SERMON OUTLINE

- 1. God knows and directs our past, present, and future.
- 2. The spirit of the antichrist has been and will be working to oppose God.
- 3. The Ancient of Days has been and will always be on the throne.

### **GROUP DISCUSSION**

- 1. Looking back at your notes, is there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
- 2. What has been your study of prophecy looked like in the past, either individually or with a church? Why did God give us prophecy and what is gained in studying it? What do we miss if we skip it?
- 3. How did Daniel's visions of the coming kingdoms affect his actions we already studied in chapters 5 and 6? How does our understanding of God's knowledge and direction of the future affect the way WE live now?
- 4. How would you explain the meaning of the "spirit of the antichrist." The spirit of the antichrist is working to oppose God through: destruction, deception, and dissention. What are some ways we've seen this in history on a grand scale? Where do we see this in our lives on a small scale? Why do we need to be on the lookout for this?
- 5. In what ways are you encouraged by the ways that we see God preparing for the coming of Jesus in Daniel 7 and 8? Share how you have been encouraged by this picture of God on his throne and his rule over all things.

# BREAKOUT DISCUSSION

1. We saw that God helped Daniel in his confusion of the visions. How does this encourage you as you seek to study the Word of God and find yourself confused? What steps can you take to seek understanding this week?

#### **PRAYER POINTS**

- 1. Praise God for his sovereign control over all things.
- 2. Pray for God to establish and guard us against the evil one.
- 3. Ask God to help our church learn and grow as we study the prophecy found in Daniel together.