

Daniel

How to Live in a World Under Pressure

Session 5 Align Your Posture
week starting July 25, 2021

Throughout the first half of the book of Daniel we see consistent patterns of faithfulness and disregard. Daniel is consistently faithful to God, the kings consistently disregard God, and God is consistently faithful to His word through it all. Chapters 4 and 5 focus on God's relationship with the kings of Babylon. The kings have power and success because God allows it. But like us all, the kings forget the lessons they've learned and begin to believe in their own power. Through a dream and vision God breaks into their arrogance and they are faced to choose between humility and ego.

GETTING STARTED

- When have you done something you knew you shouldn't do? What was the outcome?

DISCUSSION

1. Read Daniel's interpretations of the royal visions in Daniel 4:19–27 and 5:13–28. How does Daniel's posture toward the kings differ? (i.e. supportive, argumentative, sympathetic)
2. Read Daniel 4:1–3, 37 and 5:1–4. What are the kings' postures toward God?
3. In Daniel 4 & 5 we see arrogance and humility as patterns of behavior, not simply individual acts. When has pride or arrogance gotten in your way? Have you taken credit for something when God deserved the credit?
4. Read Matthew 23:8–12 and Colossians 3:12–15. How will you put these passages into practice and grow in humility?

LIVE IT OUT

Pray for and then exercise your humility: serve, forgive, apologize, or right a wrong.

PRAY

Lord, help us to set aside pride and exercise humility. Thank you for the examples you give us in the Bible. Help us to learn and apply, in order to become more like you. Amen.