

**“A PEOPLE OF POWER”****SPEAKER: BRAD WILLIAMS****DATE: MAY 15, 2022****DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

These questions are designed to help lead your group through a progression of engagement with the Bible passage(s) and the speaker's message. They can help you understand and apply the teaching.

BIBLICAL TEXT(S) + MESSAGE SUMMARY:**DANIEL 2: 1-3, 31-35, 46-47, JOHN 13:3-5**

Empowered by God, Daniel interprets the King of Babylon's dream, a prophetic vision of the world's kingdoms. Each great empire is less powerful than its predecessor, with all of them represented by a giant statue constructed of man-made materials. In the end, a great rock, “not made with human hands,” crashes into the statue demolishing it.

Daniel concludes his interpretation by telling the king about the rock. It will be a different kind of kingdom that God will establish. Its power will be his power and its people will share in that power. Like Jesus, they will use that power to love and serve others.

LEAN IN: *These are icebreakers and warm ups, mostly to get the group talking and start the flow of conversation. Choose one and talk it over for 5-10 minutes.*

1. Share one high and one low from the past week, with members of your group.
2. What characteristic of Jesus' kingdom most challenges or encourages you- love, peace, or power?
3. Do you think that worldly love, peace, power are complementary or competing? Explain.
4. Where do you have a measure of power and authority: home, work, community? How have you been handling it?

LOOK DOWN: *These are questions about the Bible passage(s) and observations about what's been read. Spend about 15-20 minutes on three questions max.*

1. Why did King Nebuchadnezzar summon his magicians, astrologers, and ultimately Daniel?
2. What was the extent of Nebuchadnezzar's power, and how did he wield it?
3. How did Daniel prepare for his audience with King Nebuchadnezzar?
4. How did Daniel exalt the God of heaven, both privately and before Nebuchadnezzar?
5. How did Nebuchadnezzar reward Daniel, for his unflinching truth-telling?

LOOK OUT: *These questions help connect the world of the Bible to today. Spend about 15-20 minutes on three questions max.*

1. What is different about the way citizens of the world's “kingdoms” live versus Jesus' kingdom?
2. To what or whom do people of other kingdoms turn, seeking understanding/wisdom for life?
3. How did might someone successfully navigate as a citizen of two kingdoms in today's world?
4. How does the government/society Daniel navigated differ from that in which you live?
5. Should a citizen of the kingdom of Christ expect to be lavishly rewarded in life? And why or why not?

CONTINUED:

LOOK IN: *These are questions that help you consider how to engage the teaching personally. Spend about 15-20 minutes on three questions max.*

1. When, if ever, have you been conflicted over the demands of citizenry, in your country?
2. What is your practice, when facing a challenge exceeding your personal capacities?
3. Have you been singled out- positively or negatively- for being a citizen of heaven? Explain.
4. How are you expressing privately and publicly, your loyalty to the God of heaven?
5. Who specifically is confronted by the kingdom of Christ, through your distinct way of life??

LIVE IT OUT: *These action steps help apply this week's message to day to day life. Choose one prompts and talk it over for 5-10 minutes.*

1. Think of a time you received much needed God-given wisdom or direction. Thank him!
2. What specific opportunity to live for Christ, exercising gracious authority, lies before you, this week? How will you prepare for this?