

Growth Teams

Week Beginning
Sunday 22nd November 2015

Going deeper

The Psalms are the songs of the Bible. They often express faith in the midst of all kinds of struggles and pressures. Psalm 115 does so in the face of unbelieving and idolatrous people like Belshazzar.

Read Psalm 115

5. Who should receive glory and why? What does this say about the attitude of the one who wrote the Psalm?
6. How are verses 2 and 3 illustrated in the story of Daniel 5?
7. What is wrong with idols and how does it affect those who trust in them? In what ways does this happen in our culture?
8. According to the Psalm how do we find lasting blessing?
9. Verse 12 says the LORD will remember his people. How was the defeat of the Babylonians by the Persians God remembering his people? (See Ezra 1:1-4)

Now do the applying it to our lives questions...

Growth Teams

Growth Teams are a wonderful opportunity to go deeper with other Christians. They are a great place to build real friendships and support networks, to pray for one another and to look more carefully at the topics we consider on a Sunday.

Our main focus on Sundays until Christmas is the book of Daniel. The Daytime growth Teams will be looking at this book, whilst for this term instead of evening Growth Teams we are running the course: ***How to like the Old Testament again, This Tuesday 7:30-9:00pm in church.***



**Growing in Christ
to glorify God
and enjoy Him forever.**

Daniel 5 (page 889)

Space to take notes on the talk

The _____ of God

The _____ on the Wall

The _____ of God

The _____ of the Past

To fail to _____ is to fail to _____

Starter question

- ❖ Can you think of any ways that God is mocked in our culture?

Responding to the talk

1. If you were asked to sum up in one sentence the point of this week's sermon, what would you say?
2. Read Daniel 5:1-4
 - a. What is shocking about Belshazzar's behaviour?
 - b. Why are the goblets from Jerusalem significant (cf. Daniel 1:1-2)?
 - c. How is Belshazzar's attitude to God different to Nebuchadnezzar's at the end of the previous chapter (cf. 4:34-37 and 5:18-21)? What had he failed to learn?
3. Read Daniel 5:5-16
 - a. How does Belshazzar respond to the vision?
 - b. What do we learn about Daniel's reputation?
 - c. Why should Belshazzar have paid Daniel more attention before?
4. Read Daniel 5:17-30
 - a. Why is what Daniel says before he interprets the message so important?
 - b. How does the message underline Belshazzar's sin?
 - c. Why is there no hope in the message (cf. Mark 3:29)?

You may like to do the 'Going Deeper' questions over the page.

Applying it to our lives

10. Sometimes we feel like we are surrounded by a culture that treats God as worthless. What encouragement to persevere can we draw from this passage?
11. In what ways might we fail to learn the lessons God is trying to teach us? What can we do to make sure this doesn't happen?