

## GOD GIVES US PEACE IN AN ANXIOUS WORLD

### RECAP

Start by asking your Home Group to share any further reflections on the sermon.

**What stood out to you?**

**Did you learn anything new that you didn't know before? Do you have any questions?**

### IDEA 1

Living in this world, it can be easy to get sucked into the patterns of this world and to go with the flow. Nebuchadnezzar, like many of us today, put his hope in the things of this world and his peace was dependent on his own power, control, comfort and way of life. When these things were threatened, he was terrified and unreasonable. God used this little crisis to speak to him and remind him that he is not God nor is he in control. God will get our attention where our attention can be got.

**In what ways can you make Nebuchadnezzar's mistake of putting your hope & peace in things other than God? What are those things?**

**What is your attention focused on right now? How might God be trying to speak to you in that?**

### IDEA 2

Nebuchadnezzar's anxiety was spreading throughout Babylon as the threat of death was real for all the wise men and employees of the king. But, Daniel was a different presence. He had a non-anxious, peaceful presence and simply returned home to his friends and turned to God in prayer.

**Have you ever faced a situation where you needed to be a peaceful presence with someone in crisis?**

**Who would you turn to in the face of this kind of threat?**

**How has God answered an urgent prayer of yours in the past?**

## IDEA 3

God revealed the dream to Daniel, so he interpreted it to the King. Nebuchadnezzar's dream was about successive kingdoms that would rise up and take rule over this region of the world after Babylon, concluding with the Kingdom of God. While most of the prophecies of this dream have already taken place, as with prophecy there is always a "now & not yet" so there is still parts of this dream yet to be fulfilled and it contains prophecies concerning the end times. However, God seems to have intentionally veiled the message in order to keep our focus on the main point: His Kingdom will crush all others and be everlasting. Thus, we can focus on His Kingdom by receiving the peace he offers us today and looking forward to the peace offered in eternity. We have peace because Jesus has entered the darkness and promised an eternal hope.

**How does the future promise of the Kingdom of God give us peace today?**

**What changes knowing that Jesus has entered your darkness?**

## APPLICATION

**Reflect on Daniel chapter 2. How has God given you peace in exile?**

Share your application with the group. Commit to checking in with one another during the week about this process.

## SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Take some time to pray for each other.

Take some time to listen first. Ask Spirit to share his heart for these requests. You may want to use a timer and set it for five minutes of quiet listening.

Open up the time for people to pray the things out loud that Spirit has prompted.