Week of 4/23/23

Text: Daniel 2

Icebreaker: What's one of the highest-pressure situations you've faced? How did you respond to it?

1. As you read verses 1-11, what can you notice about the culture Daniel and his companions are now living in that was different from their home Jewish culture?

Application: What current American cultural beliefs, values, or practices would you say pose a challenge to Christian faithfulness today?

2. How would you contrast Nebuchadnezzar's and Daniel's first response to crisis in this chapter?

Application: What can we learn from Daniel's response in verses 14-18 about how to respond when we face troubling circumstances?

3. Why do you think Daniel goes to his friends in verse 17 rather than keep the matter to himself?

Application: Are you the kind of person who finds it easy to let others know about difficulties you're facing so they can pray for you and help you? What role has Christian community had in difficulties you've faced?

4. From verse 19 and on, how does Daniel respond both to God and to Nebuchadnezzar once "the mystery was revealed to Daniel?"

Application: Have you ever felt tempted to take credit for something God did in your life? What opportunity do we miss out on when we forget to give God the credit he deserves?

5. Nebuchadnezzar's dream was a vivid depiction of the fate of different kingdoms. From verses 44-45, in what ways is God's kingdom unlike any other?

Application: How should this explanation of Nebuchadnezzar's dream impact the way we think about the future?