



## Week 4 **LEADER** Discussion Questions

Week of 5/14/23

Text: Daniel 4

**LEADERS—Please note this reminder. If you have questions about the summer and aren't sure how to stay connected, reach out to your Community Life team at your campus.**

Erie: Keesha ([kivy@calvarybible.com](mailto:kivy@calvarybible.com))

Boulder: Steph ([ssweet@calvarybible.com](mailto:ssweet@calvarybible.com))

Thornton: Justin ([jhudnall@calvarybible.com](mailto:jhudnall@calvarybible.com))

As a reminder, this series will wrap up in a couple weeks and discussion questions will not be written over the summer. If you haven't done so already, please take time to discuss what your summer plans are as a group and how you will stay connected.

**Icebreaker:** What are our summer plans? What will we do over the summer to stay connected with each other?

1. Read verses 1-18. Put yourself in Daniel's place as he is being asked by the volatile (see chapters 2-3) Nebuchadnezzar to interpret the dream. How do you think you would feel? **This could be answered numerous ways, but it's good to keep in mind how quickly Nebuchadnezzar is able to fly off the handle in anger. He usually starts making death threats once he's angry and Daniel was all too aware of that.**

*Application:* Daniel is in a high-pressure spot! What situation in your life makes you very aware of your need for God's help?

2. By "winsome," we mean being attractive or appealing in our words, actions, and attitudes so, eventually, others would be interested in knowing our God. What do you see in Daniel's response to Nebuchadnezzar in verses 19-27 that is winsome? **Daniel shows a genuine concern for Nebuchadnezzar in both verses 19 and 27 even though this is the same guy who carried him and his people off into captivity years earlier. Daniel also speaks the truth even though he may be concerned that the king doesn't want to hear it.**

*Building Christ-centered communities of people fully devoted  
to loving God and loving others.*

*Application:* Notice that being winsome doesn't mean being a social "chameleon" (we blend into whatever environment we're in) or pleasing people by saying whatever they want to hear. What happens to our witness for Christ if we only try to blend in and say what people find easy to embrace?

3. How would you summarize Daniel's call to Nebuchadnezzar in verse 27?

**Daniel is calling the king to repent and care for the poor and oppressed. It's an opportunity for the king to turn around from the way he had been ruling and avoid an even greater consequence of his pride.**

*Application:* How does care for the poor and the oppressed relate to the problem of pride?

4. Read verses 28-34. Where do you see God's patience and mercy toward Nebuchadnezzar as you think about these verses and what you've read so far in the chapter?

**First off, God gave Nebuchadnezzar this dream as a warning. He also gave Daniel as the one who could interpret it. He then gave a warning through Daniel that the king could have heeded (but didn't). Next, he gave the king a full year of opportunities to take action according to verse 27. Finally, God didn't destroy the king, but only humbled him...and then restored him back to the throne. It's an incredible picture of God's patience and mercy toward a man who was often just the opposite in his own actions.**

*Application:* What has been a humbling experience in your life? What have you learned from it?

5. This chapter begins and ends with Nebuchadnezzar's praise of God in verses 1-3 and 34-37. What do you see in these verses that the king learned from his experience?

**Notice the attention given to God's dominion and the eternal nature of his kingdom. God is sovereign over all the earth.**

*Application:* Worship orients our hearts to God, helping us grow in humility and faith. What attributes of God do you see in Nebuchadnezzar's words that you can also celebrate? Take time in prayer to praise God as a group.