Series: Dan in Real Life

Message: Dealing with the Unknown

October 10, 2010

Trusting God in Uncertain Times... the Unknown

Nebuchadnezzar's struggles with the <u>unknown</u>.

Daniel Chapter 2

Facing unknowns without God creates insecurity.

Daniel 2:1-3; Mark 4:19

Facing unknowns without God creates hostility.

Daniel 2:1-3; Romans 1:21-25,30

Facing unknowns with God creates a right perspective.

Daniel 2:17-28; Matthew 6:33; Proverbs 3:5-6

Facing unknowns with God creates peace.

Daniel 2:46; John 14-26-28; Philippians 4:7; Colossians 3:15

NEXT STEPS

Use these study questions to turn a message into a conversation. Join with a life group and continue to grow by using these study questions this week

MY STORY

This week we looked at how Daniel helped the king face the fears of an unknown dream. How does the anxiety (fear) of the unknown affect us?

How does the fear of the unknown impact our trust in God?

GOING DEEPER

Daniel reveals to the king the truth that only God can see into the heart of man. How do the following "Jesus encounters" reveal to us how deeply God knows us?

Jesus as he calls Nathaniel. John 1:43-51.

The Woman at the Well. John 4:16-29

God looks to the heart.

1 Samuel 16:7 "The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

Several times Jesus sees into people's hearts and knows what they are thinking. Review the following verses.

Matthew 26:25

Mark 2:8

Luke 5:22

Luke 6:8

John 6:26

John 13:26

What difference does it make that God looks at the heart and thoughts of man?

One encompassing theme in Daniel is that God is trustworthy (dependable, unchanging, powerful, true). In Daniel Chapter 2, God demonstrates:

- · He knows what man does not.
- He reveals that kingdoms come and go at His will.
- He reveals Himself to us so we may know Him.
- He is building a kingdom that will not end (we are a part of it through Jesus).

How does this impact how we face unknowns?

How does this impact how we trust God?

How does this impact our decisions and choices?

How does this impact our peace? Our Rest?

TAKING IT HOME

Daniel responded to the challenge of the unknown with prayer (Daniel 2:17) and with praise (Daniel 2:19-23)

What concerns, anxieties, fears and unknowns do you need to give to God in prayer?

What can you praise God for (helping, supplying, healing, overcoming, sustaining) in your life?

Put into practice praying and praising this week.

PRAYER REQUESTS