



A Tree Grows in Babylon

Daniel 4:1-37

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1. These days, is there a situation(s) that you are going through where you really need courage?

Greetings, Introduction, & The Dream (verses 1-18)

1. If someone didn't know a whole lot about God, how would you explain God's love to them?
2. Why do you think God's love is so hard to understand (especially at the heart level)?
3. How does God show love to Nebuchadnezzar?
4. How is God showing love to you?

The Interpretation (verses 19-27)

1. If someone didn't know a whole lot about God, how would you explain God's mercy to them?
2. Why do you think God's mercy is so hard to understand (especially at the heart level)?
3. How does God show mercy to Nebuchadnezzar?
4. How is God showing mercy to you?

The Fulfillment (verses 28-37)

1. If someone didn't know a whole lot about God, how would you explain God's grace to them?
2. Why do you think God's grace is so hard to understand (especially at the heart level)?
3. How does God show grace to Nebuchadnezzar?
4. How is God showing grace to you?

Processing All That...

1. What was God trying to teach Nebuchadnezzar?
2. Why do you think it was so hard for Nebuchadnezzar to understand, at the heart level, what God was teaching him?
3. In chapters 1 to 4 God uses a series of situations to get through to Nebuchadnezzar. Why do you think God's "schooling" in chapter 4 finally got through to him?
4. Have you ever had a "light bulb" moment in your relationship with God (a moment of greater understanding of God and/or going deeper in your relationship with Him)? What did God do to bring you to that moment?
5. These days, where do you see God working in your life to help you understand His love, mercy, and grace towards you?
6. Put slightly different: Even knowing that God loves us, is merciful to us, and is gracious to us—we have trouble trusting God. Way too often we turn elsewhere rather than to God (ultimately that choice is about trusting ourselves rather than God). Why do you think that is?
7. Anything or anyone that we're turning to, rather than turning to God, becomes a tool in Satan's hands to lead us farther away from God—ultimately to fear and failure rather than courage and confidence to follow God in His great purposes for lives. God may be using this account to help you think through your trust in Him (or lack of) and what He may be doing to get your attention. What do you think God may be showing you personally through this account?
8. What steps can you personally take this week to apply God's teaching from this account?

Generic Catch All Last Question...

1. Anything else not covered above or that particularly impresses you from this study?