

— *weekly* —

STUDY GUIDE

INTEGRATED BIBLE ENGAGEMENT

DAILY TRIUMPH

Week 5

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Introduction

Welcome to the Study Guide for our series in Daniel called Daily Triumph. We are committed as a church to something we call "Integrated Bible and Prayer Engagement," and each week our Study Guide will reflect that commitment. This means we have the opportunity to engage in studying the Bible and praying in an integrated fashion. We engage and pray in a setting by ourselves through our Personal Time section. We engage and pray in a setting in our home through our Table Conversation section. We engage and pray in a setting in our groups through our In Community section. Then, we engage and pray in a setting at our campus through our worship service where we can record things God is showing us in the Notes section. These four opportunities create integrated Bible and prayer engagement, and they help God's Word take deeper and deeper root into our hearts and lives.

Personal Time

READ DANIEL 5

What stood out to you from this passage? Why?

READ DANIEL 5:1-6

Daniel 4 and 5 mirror each other in significant ways. Why do you think God repeats lessons to be learned?

READ DANIEL 5:7-12

What separates Daniel from the other magicians and enchanters? How does this apply today as we seek advice and counsel?

READ DANIEL 5:13-24

How is Belshazzar's core sin like his father's (Chapter 4 - Nebuchadnezzar)? Why do you think Belshazzar did not learn from his father's sin and failure to repent?

Personal Time Continued...

READ DANIEL 5:25-31

Daniel's prophesy proved to be true. God's Word always proves to be true. Why do we often have a difficult time trusting and following God's Word?

PRAY

God, help me learn from the consequences of sin I see in myself and others. Help me to be quick to see and repent. Help me not to grieve the Holy Spirit working mightily to draw me to the Father. Instead, help me willingly submit and yield this day to the path of righteousness laid out for me.

Table Conversation

DISCUSS

Use these prompts to spark a series of table conversations this week, or cover them all in one sitting, whatever works best for your family.

READ AND DISCUSS

- Read Daniel 5:4. King Belshazzar and his nobles took the goblets intended for the worship of God and used them in their worship of false gods. Think about the gifts that God has given you. Are you using them to honor and worship God? If not, how can you redirect the outpouring of your gifts?

- Read Daniel 5:17. Why do you think Daniel accepted gifts and rewards from King Nebuchadnezzar but not from King Belshazzar?

- Read Daniel 5:22. Parents, what personal mistakes do you hope your children will learn from and not repeat? Have you learned from some of the mistakes your own parents made?

- Read Daniel 5:23. What can we learn about God from this scripture? How does God compare to the gods of silver, gold, bronze, iron, wood and stone?

PRAY

Thank you, God, for what you are showing us. Help us worship you as our one true God who sees and knows all things. Thank you for your mercy. Please give us the humility and wisdom to learn from the mistakes of others.

In Community

READ

READ Daniel 5:1 - 31

DISCUSS

- Share an observation from your Personal Time on this chapter.
- Both King Nebuchadnezzar and King Belshazzar struggled with pride and self-centeredness.
Why do you think King Belshazzar did not learn from his predecessor's sin and errant ways?
- How did the Queen introduce and describe Daniel to Belshazzar?
Why do you think Belshazzar had not previously considered Daniel for his input and counsel?
- God works in mysterious ways. How do you think God wants to speak to you today?
Can you think of a recent example in which you sensed God speaking to you through unusual circumstances?
- What is your biggest takeaway from your integrated Bible and prayer engagement with Daniel 5?

PRAY

Thank you, Father, for being so kind, long-suffering and patient with me. Please help me to be more sensitive to your leading and not test your patience and mercy in the future. Let me instead be quick to listen, slow to speak, and always reflective and thoughtful of what you are attempting to speak and work into my life with your teachings and warnings. Amen

Notes