

Behind the Scenes

Sermon Questions | 2.28.16

Opener

In today's message, thirty years have passed since the reign of Nebuchadnezzar and a new king is in charge. King Belshazzar has not learned the lessons of his predecessors and continues the trend of excessive arrogance. So much so, that he uses the chalices from God's temple to toast from during a drunken party with his nobles and concubines. He is too big for his britches!

Pride is commonplace in our culture and can unfortunately even be rewarded at times. Can you think of some examples of extreme arrogance in our society or past history? How do you react to arrogance when you see it in others?

Read

Daniel 5

Proverbs 16:18

Engaging with God in a Group

1. Hubris is defined as excessive pride, self-confidence, or extreme arrogance. What does God have to say about pride according to Proverbs 16:18? Why do you think retribution and arrogance are often closely linked together?
2. How does King Belshazzar react to the riddle on the wall? Re-read Daniel 4:31 and Daniel 4:37. Do you think God ever takes someone out when pride goes too far or oversteps holy boundaries?
3. The words "you" or "yours" occurs fifteen times in Daniel 5:22-23. Why do you think that is significant?
4. Pete mentioned that if God has placed a leader and not displaced that leader, then God has sanctioned that leader. How might this truth encourage us in light of our current culture?

Engaging with God Alone

As Christ lives in you, humility will follow. Take a moment to read [Luke 14:7-15](#) this week and spend some time in personal reflection with the Lord. In God's Kingdom, the humble rule!

1. Do you struggle with pride in any area of your life?
2. What do you think about when you walk into a room?
3. Is it all about you or do you look to serve others when you enter the room?

Closing Thoughts/Prayer

Ask Jesus to identify areas of pride in your life and pray that He would cultivate a spirit of humility in you this week as He lives his life through you.