

Behind the Scenes

Sermon Questions (Daniel 4:1-18) | 2.21.16

Opener

What is your primary feeling regarding the elections this year? Excited? Troubled? Disturbed? Angry? Committed? Other?

Read

Daniel 4:1-18

Engaging with God in a Group

1. Daniel made a decision to follow God and obey his direction over and over throughout this book. Read Daniel 4:8. How did Nebuchadnezzar know Daniel? How do people know that you are united with the Holy Spirit?
2. Read Ezekiel 1:1-3. Where is Ezekiel? Read Ezekiel 31. What do you learn about the tree and Ezekiel's prophecy?
3. Look up biblegateway.com and do a keyword search for "Most High God." Notice how many times this phrase appears in Daniel. Why do you think that is?
4. Continue reading Daniel 4:19-34. Pete had you underline 4:17, 25, and 32. What is the repeated phrase? How does this apply to our lives?

Remember Pete's Lessons:

- Lesson 1: Elections are won or lost when God casts his vote. To see where this comes from, ask when are elections won or lost? See verses 17, 25, and 32 and look for the repetition.
 - Lesson 2: God's eternal kingdom supersedes any earthly kingdom. To see where this comes from, see verses 3 and 34 and not what is repeated.
5. How will you now respond to the news regarding the U.S. and any world elections?

Engaging with God Alone

1. How do you react when stressed? When fearful? When unsure of your next step?
2. As a child of the Most High God, how are you able to react in these situations? What will remind/allow you to react with confidence?

Closing thoughts and prayer

Pray for the candidates. Pray for the people of the U.S. to vote and vote responsibly. Pray that we Christians share with others the perspective that God reigns and is in control no matter what happens in the election. Then pray that we look out for the people who struggle in life and are looking for answers. Our primary role as citizens of heaven is not to influence an election (elections are won or lost when God casts his vote), but to welcome weary birds to his branch.