

MISSIONAL GROUPS

Daniel
May 11th
Daniel 7

WELCOME – Potluck – Sharing a meal together. Icebreaker questions with group members to connect with one another relationally and get everyone comfortable with sharing.

- Ask how they've seen God working in their lives since you met last. (or relating to the previous meeting's discussion)

How would you describe the greatness of God?

WORSHIP - *after dinner* - to draw our hearts to the Lord and invite Him into our discussion

- Join in singing a worship song:
- (found on this link: <https://vimeo.com/showcase/11393450>)

WORD - Facilitate discussion using the guide below and to consider how the sermon applies to our lives

Focus: Victory in Jesus

Dan 7:1-14

In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream, and visions passed through his mind as he was lying in bed. He wrote down the substance of his dream.

² Daniel said: "In my vision at night I looked, and there before me were the four winds of heaven churning up the great sea. ³ Four great beasts, each different from the others, came up out of the sea.

⁴ "The first was like a lion, and it had the wings of an eagle. I watched until its wings were torn off and it was lifted from the ground so that it stood on two feet like a human being, and the mind of a human was given to it.

⁵ "And there before me was a second beast, which looked like a bear. It was raised up on one of its sides, and it had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. It was told, 'Get up and eat your fill of flesh!'

⁶ “After that, I looked, and there before me was another beast, one that looked like a leopard. And on its back it had four wings like those of a bird. This beast had four heads, and it was given authority to rule.

⁷ “After that, in my vision at night I looked, and there before me was a fourth beast—terrifying and frightening and very powerful. It had large iron teeth; it crushed and devoured its victims and trampled underfoot whatever was left. It was different from all the former beasts, and it had ten horns.

⁸ “While I was thinking about the horns, there before me was another horn, a little one, which came up among them; and three of the first horns were uprooted before it. This horn had eyes like the eyes of a human being and a mouth that spoke boastfully.

⁹ “As I looked,

“thrones were set in place,
and the Ancient of Days took his seat.
His clothing was as white as snow;
the hair of his head was white like wool.

His throne was flaming with fire,
and its wheels were all ablaze.

¹⁰ A river of fire was flowing,
coming out from before him.

Thousands upon thousands attended him;
ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him.

The court was seated,
and the books were opened.

¹¹ “Then I continued to watch because of the boastful words the horn was speaking. I kept looking until the beast was slain and its body destroyed and thrown into the blazing fire. ¹² (The other beasts had been stripped of their authority, but were allowed to live for a period of time.)

¹³ “In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man,^[a] coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. ¹⁴ He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

Discussion Questions:

1. How do the four beasts in Daniel 7 mirror the statue in Daniel 2, and what does this parallel teach us about God's control over successive human empires?
2. In the midst of the chaotic, "churning" sea of human kingdoms, how does the vision of the Ancient of Days (Daniel 7:9–10) speak into our own fears and uncertainties today?
3. Daniel sees "one like a Son of Man" given everlasting dominion (Daniel 7:13–14). How does Jesus' use of that title in the Gospels unveil the divine identity and mission of Christ?
4. What difference does the promise that "the holy people of the Most High" will share in God's eternal kingdom (Daniel 7:27) make for our daily witness and perseverance as God's people?

WITNESS: Joining Jesus in His mission

In response to what you learned about today, discuss and reflect on the following questions:

What is God challenging you in your heart about the ultimate triumph of Christ?

Based on what I learned today what are some ways that I will live differently?

How will I apply these scriptures in my day-to-day life?

Take time to pray for each other that God would help us remember that our victory is in Jesus