

October 29, 2023 - Thriving in Babylon: The Writing on the Wall

Feel free to pick and choose some of the questions below to engage with as a group. Before you leave, be sure to spend some time going over the **Top 3** things your group members need to know.

Connect: This passage takes place at a banquet party. What kind of feast do you think this was? What's the best party/feast you've ever attended?

In this passage Belshazzar is frightened (Daniel 5:6). When was the last time you were frightened in this way?

Engage:

Read Daniel 5:1-4 (God for Who He Is!) - Not only does Belshazzar not show honor to God, he openly defies him. He demanded the vessels from Solomon's temple so he could openly disgrace the Lord by defiling them. How do we view God as a "buffet" type of God? How do we dishonor God by making him in the image WE want?

(Serving God Where You Are!) Robert mentioned that the Lord wants us to serve faithfully wherever we are and that Daniel served faithfully in spite of where he was.

Read Jeremiah 29:7- What does honoring God "where you are" look like? How can we serve the Lord and others wherever we are, or even in spite of where we are?

Read Daniel 5:10-12 - Many individuals, including the queen, were greatly touched by Daniel's influence. He was a well-known worshipper of the one true God for a long time. We can see the fruit of his faithfulness here. When is a time when someone's faithfulness has inspired you to do the right thing or has caused you to seek out their advice?

Read Daniel 17-24 (What You Know!) - What did Daniel do before interpreting the writing? What can we see about Daniel's attitude in front of Belshazzar? What can we learn from this?

Read Daniel 25-29- How would our lives hold up if weighed by the Lord's divine scales? What are we numbing out with: reputation, romance, diversions/distractions? What voices are we listening to? Who are the trusted voices in our lives? Are we aware of the writing finger of God in our lives? What can the "writing on the wall" look like in our lives?

Apply:

Where and how can we choose to honor God this week?
How can we be sure to turn to the right source for wisdom?
In what ways can we be bold this week? How can we look for opportunities to speak the truth IN LOVE into others' lives.

Prayer: LORD, we thank You for Your unfailing love. As we are reminded that the things of the world are temporary, that our days are numbered, and that we don't measure up, we celebrate that You LORD are everlasting! (Isaiah 40:28) We know, Lord, that each one of us is a sinner and have fallen short of Your glory (Romans 3:23-24). We trust in the work Jesus has completed on the cross. We humble ourselves before You and rest in the saving grace of Jesus our living Lord and Savior. Lead us in how we can honor You in our daily lives and step into opportunities to share Your truth and grace with others.

Top 3:

Go Global Day | November 12

On this day, you can learn about our upcoming 2024 Global Mission Trips. Representatives from our partners will be in the Commons in between services. You will be able to register for our trips or just learn more about them. If you have any interest in going on one of our global trips, we want to encourage you to make extra time to engage in our Go Global Day.

Last Fall Semester On-Campus Group Meetings | November 12-18

The final meetings for all on-campus groups and activities in 2023 will be the week of November 12-18. This allows Groups the opportunity for margin in their schedule to participate in all the seasonal events that are approaching in church life.

Around the Table | November 29 at 5:30 pm | Homes in Surrounding Area

We want all Groups to be able to participate in **Around the Table** on November 29. This will take place on a Wednesday evening in lieu of a group meeting. It will be a night of meals shared across the Jackson-Metro area and is a way for members to get to know other members that live near them. Encourage your group members to sign up at [here](#) or at <https://fcconnect.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/405/responses/new>. Once you're signed up, you will be connected to a host home in your neighborhood.