



Dig Deeper @Home – “The Ascended One”

Complement to sermon on April 17 – The Reigning King

MEMORIZE – Philippians 3: 10-11

“that I may know [Christ] and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like Him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.”

READ Daniel 7: 1-18

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. What is this passage revealing about God and what is it revealing about us as humans?
2. If the above is true, what needs to change in your life? What will that look like?
3. From 7: 3-8, four beasts are described. Within the descriptions of the four beasts are these following phrases: “its wings were plucked off (v4)”, “it was told, ‘devour much flesh’ (v5)”, “dominion was given to it (v6)”. What do these phrases indicate?
4. There are two “scene changes” in the midst of Daniel describing the 4 beasts: Verses 9-10 and 13-14. What is the point of these verses and why are they inserted in these spots? (Hint: much is made of the 4 beasts in Daniel 7:1-18, but these verses show the true point for us to dwell)
5. Daniel 7 is apocalyptic in nature. Apocalyptic literature is typically given during a time of great hardship and persecution to remind the people of who God is. Read 7: 19-28 and write down all the things this reveals about the great God that we serve.

Bottom Line (give a one or two sentence summary of the scripture you just read):

Experiential

Sometimes activities help us to understand and process biblical truths. The below is one suggestion for how to experience the truths of Daniel 7: 1-18. Feel free to use this one or any you might come up with.

Reminder of God's presence – Scratch art

Take a piece of white poster board and color it with crayons. Make it very colorful. Then apply black water paint and cover all the crayon. Let the paint dry. Use a thumbtack or a toothpick to write letters or make a picture by scratching off the black paint which will reveal the color underneath. Write a word, a phrase or draw a picture that declares God is present and working at all times. This is a great reminder that regardless of the hard things in life (the black) that we are facing, God's grace, power, authority and love (the colors of the crayons) are still there even if we can't see it. To see a youtube tutorial, check out this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7IYHPW9SUqM> (Also, pre-made scratch art sheets can be bought but it is fun and adds to the experience to make them yourself)

SING (a suggested song to sing. Use this or any song you might want to sing)

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

Hymn 558 in the Mennonite Hymnal. A great song reminding us that our rock, Jesus Christ will stand through all storms of life.

You are God Alone - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9xPzTSpbYmk>

A great song declaring powerful truths about the One True Living God that we serve and that He alone sits on throne. No matter what we are facing He is in control.

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and praise reports. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to show up in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the lesson:

O Ancient of Days, we find comfort in knowing that you sit on your throne in full authority of all things. Please help us to remember these in our times of struggle and despair. Help us to follow in the ways of Jesus, the one like a son of man, and to live for His Kingdom and His alone. In Jesus name, the name above all other names we pray, amen.