

# THE BOOK OF DANIEL

Light of Christ 2021



Daniel answered and said: “Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, to whom belong wisdom and might. He changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings; he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding. **Daniel 2:20-21**

## **Book of the Bible: Daniel**

Daniel answered and said: “Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, to whom belong wisdom and might. He changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings; he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding.

### **Daniel 2:20-21**

You are joining members of Light of Christ Lutheran Church to spend the next 8 weeks looking at part of the book of Daniel. Many say the bible is out of date and out of touch. Culture is certainly changing and in many ways is setting up against God’s Word. But God’s word is eternal. Regardless of the changes in culture, we are expected to be faithful to God.

Daniel was facing a lot of the same issues we face today. How to be faithful to God in a culture that can be hostile to God and His Word. How do we live as followers of Jesus Christ in a culture where it is less and less popular to do so? Daniel will help us in this journey.

During these 8 weeks, you will complete the following:

- \* Weekly Sermon notes
- \* Weekly worship of Jesus, which will include a weekly chronicle.
- \* Turn in weekly accountability forms, included in this booklet.

## Weekly Sermon Notes

Taking notes is a great way to help stay engaged during a sermon. This will also help me (Pastor Jim) know if you are understanding what I am trying to communicate. Taking notes during these 8 weeks will help you and me.

Law and Gospel are key aspects of a sermon. The law shows us our sins. In a sermon, we may hear about things we should or should not be doing and where are we not meeting God's expectations. The law shows us what we need to be doing and why we need the forgiveness of sins.

The Gospel of a sermon is equally important as the law. We need to know that our sins are forgiven. We need to know we can stand in confidence before our God. The Gospel is Jesus dying on the cross and rising from the dead on the third day. Any sermon should contain both law AND Gospel. If it doesn't, it is not a good sermon.

I suggest writing your sermon notes in a notebook and then fill in the questions on the sermon notes page at a different time. The sermon notes sheet will have the following questions:

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

***Bible Text of the Day:*** \_\_\_\_\_

**Law: What was I told to do? In what way was I told I am a sinner? Etc.**

**Gospel: Was the Gospel presented in the sermon? How?**

**What were some of the points made during the sermon?**

**Do I have any follow up questions regarding the sermon?**

## Weekly Worship Time

You will focus on a time during the week to have some weekly worship. Plan on 20-30 minutes for this time. It is a time during your week to put aside all distractions and focus on some alone time with God. It can be any time of the day and any day of the week. Below are the things you will do during this time:

**Music:** Pull up some hymns or worship songs to listen to. Spend about 5-7 minutes listening and singing if you would like. You can split this music time between the beginning and end of this time if you would like. You can use YouTube to find this music. If you have a CD or your own worship music, you can use that too.

**Scripture Reading:** There will be a scripture to read that will be from Daniel and/or connected to the events in Daniel. The readings are based on the previous Sunday's sermon.

**Praise:** Spend a minute or two giving praise to God for how Great He is.

**Weekly Chronicle:** This is time for you to focus on a particular question or topic. This involves writing. Use a spiral bound notebook or stationery of your choosing. Some weeks will have an assigned question and the other weeks you will choose from a few questions to write about. The weekly Chronicle will not be turned in. This is private, between you and God. The weekly accountability form will ask you to identify the question your chose and any comments you may want to make on that writing.

## **Week 1 Assignment**

**Listen to worship music, read the scripture below, praise God for how awesome He is and complete the weekly Chronicle.**

### **Scripture for the Week: 2 Chronicles 36:17-21 and Daniel 1:1-7**

2 Chronicles briefly states what happened as Jerusalem, the capital of Judah, was conquered.

More details- Babylon besieged the city of Jerusalem for about a year and a half. It got ugly in Jerusalem as they were starved out. You can read the book of Lamentations to see what this time was like inside the city.

### **Weekly Chronicle:**

In a separate notebook, list 100 things you are thankful for. Don't be afraid to thank God for the "small things".

## Week 2 Assignment

Listen to worship music, read the scripture below, praise God for how awesome He is and complete the weekly Chronicle.

Scripture for the week: Daniel 1:8-21

### Weekly Chronicle

In a separate notebook, write about **one** of these questions:

- Write about a time when God used a bad situation for your good.
- What do you feel God is asking you to change?
- When do you feel most distant from God?
- Is there something that you haven't forgiven yourself for? How can you receive the healing of the Lord?
- Write about and thank God for times He said 'no' to your prayers.

## **Week 3 Assignment**

**Listen to worship music, read the scripture below, praise God for how awesome He is and complete the weekly Chronicle.**

**Scripture for the week: Daniel chapter 2**

### **Weekly Chronicle**

In a separate notebook, write out and talk about this question:

**Psalm 46:10a:** “Be still, and know that I am God.

What might be God trying to tell you right now?

## Week 4 Assignment

Listen to worship music, read the scripture below, praise God for how awesome He is and complete the weekly Chronicle.

Scripture for the week: Daniel 3:1-19

### Weekly Chronicle

In a separate notebook or stationery, write out and talk about **one** of these questions:

- Looking back on your life, how was God working behind the scenes? Look at one event or several. How has God been shaping your life?
- If you are struggling though something, what do you think God wants to you to learn?
- List all the needs God is currently meeting.
- What do you love most about your church family?
- What is God calling me to focus on in the next 6 months?

## **Week 5 Assignment**

**Listen to worship music, read the scripture below, praise God for how awesome He is and complete the weekly Chronicle.**

**Scripture for the week: Daniel 3:20-30**

### **Weekly Chronicle**

In a separate notebook, write out and talk about this question:

What are the character attributes you think a Christian should have? Where do you need improvement?

## Week 6 Assignment

Listen to worship music, read the scripture below, praise God for how awesome He is and complete the weekly Chronicle.

Scripture for the week: Daniel chapter 4

### Weekly Chronicle

In a separate notebook or stationery, write out and talk about **one** of these questions:

- What situation, thing, person, or role am I placing my identity in instead of God?
- Write a letter to your teenage self and talk to them about faith- what to look for, what to think about, what to focus on.
- How would you like to be remembered? You could try writing your obituary.
- How did I respond the last time someone upset me? How did God want me to handle that situation?
- What attribute of God am I most grateful for today and why?

## Week 7 Assignment

Listen to worship music, read the scripture below, praise God for how awesome He is and complete the weekly Chronicle.

Scripture for the week: Daniel chapter 5

### Weekly Chronicle

In a separate notebook or stationery, write out and talk about **one** of these questions:

- How can you work on honoring God in your day-to-day life?
- What cares/problems/difficulties do you need to cast on Jesus?
- Who has been instrumental in your faith journey and how?
- What is your favorite Christian song/hymn and why?
- Write out a prayer of confession. Burn the paper like Nebuchadnezzar's guards.

## Week 8 Assignment

**Listen to worship music, read the scripture below, praise God for how awesome He is and complete the weekly Chronicle.**

**Scripture for the week: Daniel chapter 6**

### Weekly Chronicle

Congratulations on making it to the final week. Today's Chronicle will be a bit different. Write out a dialogue between you and God. Basically, write it out like a script. Write out what you think God would say in this conversation.

This is going to feel like a strange exercise to do. It will be weird to write God's responses. The first time I did this, it took me several minutes to get going. Eventually, you will get it and you might be pleasantly surprised at how well this goes. So, hang in there, take your time, and enjoy talking with God.

I would start this way:

Me: Hello God.

God: Hello Jim.

Me:

God:

## Week 8 Accountability Form: June 27 - July 3

Turn this accountability form in the offering box on Sunday, July 4

**Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Sermon Notes:**

Sermon Date: \_\_\_\_\_ *Bible Text of the Day:* \_\_\_\_\_

Law: What was I told to do? In what way was I told I am a sinner? Etc.

Gospel: Was the Gospel presented in the sermon? How?

What were some of the points made during the sermon?

Do I have any follow up questions regarding the sermon?

### **Weekly Worship:**

What day and time did you use for your worship time?

What songs did you listen to?

### **Weekly Chronicle:**

How was doing this dialogue with God?

What advice would you give someone who was going to be doing that exercise for the first time?

Did anything surprise you about doing this exercise?

## Week 7 Accountability Form: June 20-26

Turn this accountability form in the offering box on Sunday, June 27

**Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Sermon Notes:**

Sermon Date: \_\_\_\_\_ *Bible Text of the Day:* \_\_\_\_\_

Law: What was I told to do? In what way was I told I am a sinner? Etc.

Gospel: Was the Gospel presented in the sermon? How?

What were some of the points made during the sermon?

Do I have any follow up questions regarding the sermon?

**Weekly Worship:**

What day and time did you use for your worship time?

What songs did you listen to?

**Weekly Chronicle:**

What question did you choose to write about?

How much did you write? A paragraph, a page, several pages, etc.?

What kind of Christian books do you like to read?

## Week 6 Accountability Form: June 13-19

Turn this accountability form in the offering box on Sunday, June 20

**Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Sermon Notes:**

Sermon Date: \_\_\_\_\_ *Bible Text of the Day:* \_\_\_\_\_

Law: What was I told to do? In what way was I told I am a sinner? Etc.

Gospel: Was the Gospel presented in the sermon? How?

What were some of the points made during the sermon?

Do I have any follow up questions regarding the sermon?

**Weekly Worship:**

What day and time did you use for your worship time?

What songs did you listen to?

**Weekly Chronicle:**

What question did you choose to write about?

How much did you write? A paragraph, a page, several pages, etc.?

What question do you think would be good to ask Christians to write about?

## Week 5 Accountability Form: June 6-12

Turn this accountability form in the offering box on Sunday, June 13

**Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Sermon Notes:**

Sermon Date: \_\_\_\_\_ *Bible Text of the Day:* \_\_\_\_\_

Law: What was I told to do? In what way was I told I am a sinner? Etc.

Gospel: Was the Gospel presented in the sermon? How?

What were some of the points made during the sermon?

Do I have any follow up questions regarding the sermon?

### **Weekly Worship:**

What day and time did you use for your worship time?

What songs did you listen to?

### **Weekly Chronicle:**

Is there a Christian you know that has those attributes you listed this week?

Who has been some role models in your faith journey?

Who are you a role model for in someone else's faith journey?

## Week 4 Accountability Form: May 30 – June 5

Turn this accountability form in the offering box on Sunday, June 6

**Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Sermon Notes:**

Sermon Date: \_\_\_\_\_ *Bible Text of the Day:* \_\_\_\_\_

Law: What was I told to do? In what way was I told I am a sinner? Etc.

Gospel: Was the Gospel presented in the sermon? How?

What were some of the points made during the sermon?

Do I have any follow up questions regarding the sermon?

**Weekly Worship:**

What day and time did you use for your worship time?

What songs did you listen to?

**Weekly Chronicle:**

What question did you choose to write about?

How much did you write? A paragraph, a page, several pages, etc.?

Is doing the Weekly Chronicle a challenge for you or is it easy and why?

## Week 3 Accountability Form: May 23 - 29

Turn this accountability form in the offering box on Sunday, May 30

**Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Sermon Notes:**

Sermon Date: \_\_\_\_\_ *Bible Text of the Day:* \_\_\_\_\_

Law: What was I told to do? In what way was I told I am a sinner? Etc.

Gospel: Was the Gospel presented in the sermon? How?

What were some of the points made during the sermon?

Do I have any follow up questions regarding the sermon?

**Weekly Worship:**

What day and time did you use for your worship time?

What songs did you listen to?

**Weekly Chronicle:**

Why is it important to take time to focus on God?

What are some things you can do to 'be still'?

## Week 2 Accountability Form: May 16 - 22

Turn this accountability form in the offering box on Sunday, May 23

**Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Sermon Notes:**

Sermon Date: \_\_\_\_\_ *Bible Text of the Day:* \_\_\_\_\_

Law: What was I told to do? In what way was I told I am a sinner? Etc.

Gospel: Was the Gospel presented in the sermon? How?

What were some of the points made during the sermon?

Do I have any follow up questions regarding the sermon?

**Weekly Worship:**

What day and time did you use for your worship time?

What songs did you listen to?

**Weekly Chronicle:**

What question did you choose to write about?

How much did you write? A paragraph, a page, several pages, etc.?

## Week 1 Accountability Form: May 9 - 15

Turn this accountability form in the offering box on Sunday, May 16

**Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Sermon Notes:**

Sermon Date: \_\_\_\_\_ *Bible Text of the Day:* \_\_\_\_\_

Law: What was I told to do? In what way was I told I am a sinner? Etc.

Gospel: Was the Gospel presented in the sermon? How?

What were some of the points made during the sermon?

Do I have any follow up questions regarding the sermon?

**Weekly Worship:**

What day and time did you use for your worship time?

What songs did you listen to?

**Weekly Chronicle:**

Did you have trouble thinking of things to be thankful for?

Are you generally a thankful person?