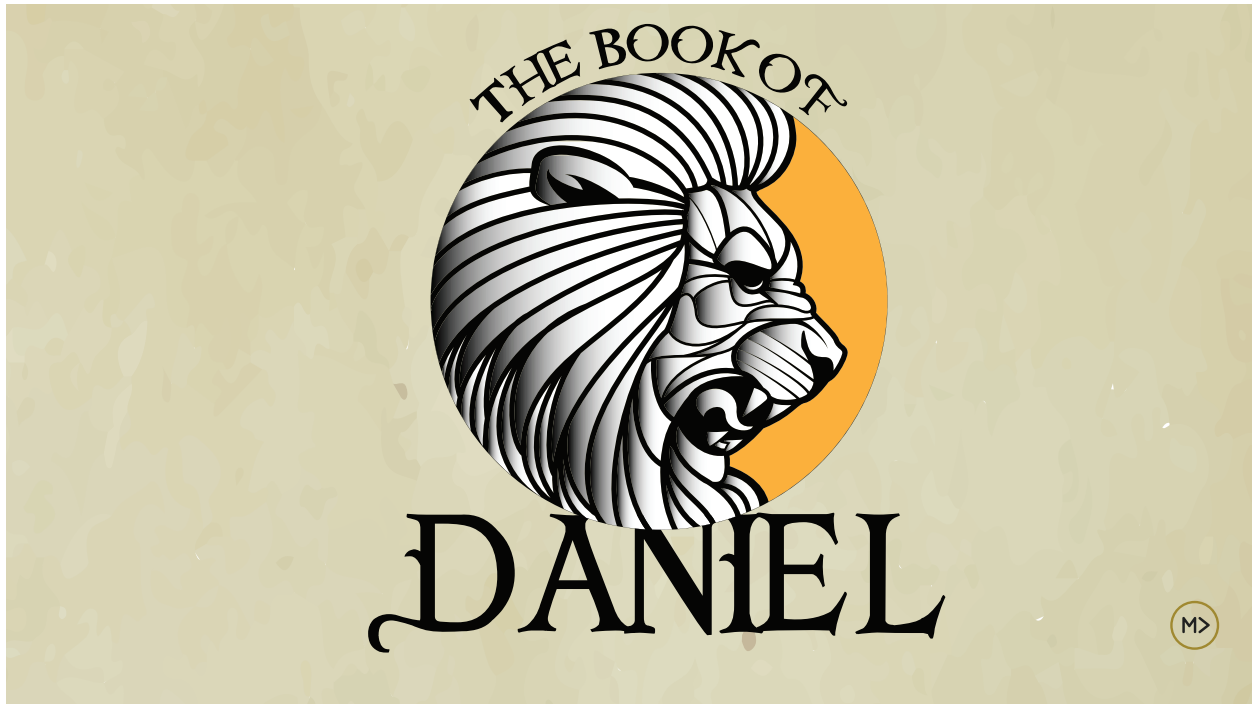


# MD KIDS CURRICULUM: DANIEL



## Week Four: Humility & Majesty

### To the Teacher:

The book of Daniel is primarily about how God's people can live in His kingdom in the midst of a culture trying to rule with human kingdoms. Pray that we as a church, our kids included, will learn to love our culture while remaining faithful to our true King.

- **Big Idea:** God has glory over all and He humbles the proud.
- **Question:** Who is the greatest person you have ever heard of? What was great about him/her? Where does this person's greatness come from?
- **Starter:** 'Whose Strength Is It?'  
Bring in a heavy object; weights or a large item that you can lift but the kids likely cannot. Get a volunteer to come pick it up. After they are unable to, have them try again with you helping this time. Ask the kids who really lifted it. Explain that everything we do is really done through God's power, not our own.

- **Story:** from Daniel 4

One day, King Nebuchadnezzar had another dream that he could not understand. He remembered that Daniel was able to interpret dreams because God gave him wisdom and understanding. So, Nebuchadnezzar described his dream to Daniel.

He saw a large tree growing wide and tall. It provided shade and food for all the creatures of earth and reached up to the heavens. Then a messenger from the heavens came and announced for the tree to be chopped down to a stump, and all the creatures to run and scatter when the tree falls. He said the tree, which represented a man, would be transformed from a man to a beast for a time, until he realizes that God is the King who rules over all creation.

Daniel told the king the tree represented Nebuchadnezzar. His kingdom had grown strong, but his pride would force God to humble him and bring him low, so Daniel warned him to stay humble before God. About a year later, Nebuchadnezzar forgot about this warning and as he was looking out from his palace over his kingdom he said to himself, "Isn't this Babylon great? I have built it with my mighty power for my glory and majesty!" Just then, a voice from heaven said, "O Nebuchadnezzar, your kingdom is being taken from you and you will be driven away from humans, to live like a beast."

Nebuchadnezzar started to lose his mind and act like an animal. He lost his kingdom and lived with the beasts of the field, eating grass like cows do. His hair grew long over his body, almost like feathers of an eagle, and his nails grew long like talons. After a long period of time, God allowed him to get his mind back and he started to reason like a human again.

As soon as Nebuchadnezzar could think right, he understood how powerful God is and that only He deserves glory and majesty. He started to worship God saying, "His kingdom is the true and forever kingdom! No one on earth is like Him."

When he did this, God allowed Nebuchadnezzar to get his kingdom of Babylon back. He gave him wisdom and power and more honor than he had before. King Nebuchadnezzar told everyone about what God had done and even wrote about it for generations to read later, that the God of Israel is the King over all creation, and to warn people not to get prideful, because God can chop you down and humble you, as He did with Nebuchadnezzar.

*[Things to Point Out]*

- Remember King Nebuchadnezzar's dream of the tree reaching to heaven?
  - In those days things like tall trees, mountains, and towers were symbols of humans being able to reach up to heaven
  - Remember when Babylon many years before tried building a tower up to heaven? (Babel) God humbled them then too!
- Imagine a tree like the one in Nebuchadnezzar's dream. It is full and healthy and provides shade and food for all the earth and reaches to the heavens. Doesn't that sound good?
  - Ask: Why do you think King Nebuchadnezzar had to be chopped down from being that tree?
  - Ask: Who do you think should be that tree? Jesus is the true Tree of Life for all the earth!
- Ask: What was the reason God made Nebuchadnezzar go crazy and live like an animal?
  - He was filled with pride
  - He thought all glory and majesty on earth belonged to him, not to God
- Ask: What's King Nebuchadnezzar like after he came to his senses and became like a human again?
  - He worshipped God and he got his kingdom back
  - God causing him to lose his mind really helped transform his mind to what it should be!
- **Prayer:**

God, only You are glorious and majestic and have all power over all the earth. Help us to remember You are in charge and we get to show the world what You are like. Fill us with Your Spirit so we can live the right way. In Jesus' name, amen.
- **Craft:**
  - Use coloring sheet of Nebuchadnezzar living with the animals attached
- **BLESS Activity:**

*\*For kids to do during the week\**

  - **Sabbath:** God is King over all things. This means we can trust He is in control. Ask your parents how your family can rest in God's kingdom together this week.

