

# Goldstone Church

## Small Group Questions

### Daniel 2:26-28, 36-45

#### Review

- Share what you like doing most in the summer months.
- How would you describe the Eternal, All-powerful, Almighty, Creator- God to a small child?
- Explain why a personal relationship with God is so important to you.

#### Remind

- What was Daniel's Babylonian name (v.26)?
- Who was the only person able to explain the king's dreams (v.27-28)? Did this match the astrologer's opinion? (Dan 2:11)
- Who represented the 'head of gold' (v.36-38)? Who else used a similar description? (See Jeremiah 51:7a).
- Were the succeeding kingdoms superior to the first (v.39-40)?
- What would illustrate the 'feet and toes' kingdom (v.41-43)? Was it seen as a strong or a weak kingdom?
- Who would replace all the kingdoms (v.44)? How long would this empire last?
- How is this final kingdom represented (v.45)?

#### Respond

- What gives Daniel, a foreigner & teenager, the confidence to reveal the dream and its interpretation in front of the king?
- As Christians, what promise do we have that God will help us to speak about Him in stressful situations? (See Luke 12:11-12)
- What does it mean to you that "God reveals mysteries"?
- "*History is not made by earthly rulers but by the hand of God*". In what way/s does Nebuchadnezzar's dream apply to us today?
- What would make you more courageous to speak out for God to your family and friends?
- You could end by reading together Daniel 2:27-28a

## Daniel 2:26-28, 36-45 (NIVUK)

### Daniel interprets the dream

<sup>26</sup> The king asked Daniel (also called Belteshazzar), 'Are you able to tell me what I saw in my dream and interpret it?'

<sup>27</sup> Daniel replied, '**No wise man, enchanter, magician or diviner can explain to the king the mystery he has asked about,** <sup>28</sup> **but there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries.** He has shown King Nebuchadnezzar what will happen in days to come. Your dream and the visions that passed through your mind as you were lying in bed are these:

<sup>36</sup> 'This was the dream, and now we will interpret it to the king. <sup>37</sup> Your Majesty, you are the king of kings. The God of heaven has given you dominion and power and might and glory; <sup>38</sup> in your hands he has placed all mankind and the beasts of the field and the birds in the sky. Wherever they live, he has made you ruler over them all. You are that head of gold.

<sup>39</sup> 'After you, another kingdom will arise, inferior to yours. Next, a third kingdom, one of bronze, will rule over the whole earth. <sup>40</sup> Finally, there will be a fourth kingdom, strong as iron – for iron breaks and smashes everything – and as iron breaks things to pieces, so it will crush and break all the others. <sup>41</sup> Just as you saw that the feet and toes were partly of baked clay and partly of iron, so this will be a divided kingdom; yet it will have some of the strength of iron in it, even as you saw iron mixed with clay. <sup>42</sup> As the toes were partly iron and partly clay, so this kingdom will be partly strong and partly brittle. <sup>43</sup> And just as you saw the iron mixed with baked clay, so the people will be a mixture and will not remain united, any more than iron mixes with clay.

<sup>44</sup> 'In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure for ever. <sup>45</sup> This is the meaning of the vision of the rock cut out of a mountain, but not by human hands – a rock that broke the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver and the gold to pieces.

'The great God has shown the king what will take place in the future. The dream is true and its interpretation is trustworthy.'

