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Oct 11, 2026



RIVERSIDE
CHURCH

Your story matters.

**BIG LAKE
BUFFALO
SAUK RAPIDS**

Message Notes

- Icebreaker -

If you could choose, would you have grown up in a different decade or era? If so which one and why?

1. Ask the Holy Spirit to lead you as you read or skim Daniel 4. What stands out to you?
2. What does God's interaction with King Nebuchadnezzar reveal about His heart?
3. How do the character traits of a prideful person and a humble person differ?
4. Pastor Kyle listed 3 ways Christians can live out humility. What were they, and if you're lacking in one, how might you change that?
5. Pastor Kyle said, "God humbles us, not to hurt us but to heal us. To restore us. To transform us into who we were always meant to be..." and "If you know pride is a major thing you struggle with and if you're convinced that God hates pride, do you want Him to humble you by any means necessary?" Given the lengths God goes to in Daniel 4, do you want this? Why or why not? (See **Philippians 3:7-8** and **Proverbs 16:5, 18-19.**)
6. Pastor Kyle said, "Here's a great litmus test to know whether or not you're dangerously prideful... if you're not asking godly, wise people to speak into your life or if you're ignoring them when they do..." What steps can you take this week to combat pride by giving someone you trust the opportunity to speak into your life?

Questions from *Thriving in Babylon*, chapters 11-13

1. Osborne said, "...if everything we dread most were to actually happen, it wouldn't be nearly as bad as we imagine. God provides us with what we need when we need it." Reflecting on your answer from question 5 above: why do you think you struggle to give God that kind of permission in your life? (See **Hebrews 12:10-11** & **Psalms 139:23-24.**)
2. Read the last paragraph of the section Remembering Clearly, on page 130, starting with, "Practicing the discipline of gratitude..." How would practicing gratitude disarm the pride you feel about certain things in your life? (See **Philippians 4:8** & **Romans 12:2-3.**)
3. Read the section, *God's Plan A* (pgs 140-141). Has your pride kept you from engaging in your local church? If so, what steps do you need to take to lay it down and say 'YES!' in faith to God's next step for you?



"The Center of the Universe"

Pastor Kyle Asmus | Oct 11, 2026

We all participate in a world that props us up with _____. Where it's all about you. It's all about me. Where we are the center of it all.

Daniel is a book about how to live as an _____.

HOW DO WE EXIST WHEN WHERE WE ARE IS NOT OUR PLACE AND NOT OUR PEOPLE?

Will we _____ or will we Stand Tall?

Daniel 4:4-8, 20-27

A great _____ to know whether or not you're prideful... if you're not asking for and/or accepting input from Godly people, watch out. God puts those types of people in our lives to protect us _____.

Daniel 4:29-33

If there is one thing God will not tolerate in us..._____.
The center of _____...is pride.
God hates pride.

Proverbs 16:5

Isaiah 13:11

1 Peter 5:5b

Revelation 3:17

There is nothing more _____ to you today than your _____.

Daniel 4 is a _____ to us:

1. Pride _____ you. (**Daniel 4:30**)
 - The reason you have what you have...is not primarily because of you. It's _____ God _____ you.

2. Pride _____ you.
- Daniel tried to get Nebuchadnezzar to _____ before God, but he never fully listened because pride hardens you over time.
3. Pride _____ you.
- Pride distorts the _____ in us...

If we're in a place amongst a people who are only promoting pride...how do we resist? How do we stand tall?

Walk the way of _____.

1. The way of humility _____. (Daniel 4:34)
- To lift our eyes to Heaven postures us in _____ and _____.
2. The way of humility _____. (Daniel 4:34b-35a)
- In humility, submit to the divine reality that where you are is the result of _____ placing you there. It's not primarily your doing. It's His. (Daniel 4:35b)
3. The way of humility _____. (Daniel 4:37)
- God humbles us. Not to _____ us, but to _____ us.

_____ yourself from the center of your universe.

We _____ that He might _____.

(John 3:30)

"...praise and glorify and honor the King of heaven. All His acts are just and true." (Daniel 4:37)

Tell us about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey!

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"The Center of the Universe"

Pastor Kyle Asmus | Oct 11, 2026

We all participate in a world that props us up with pride. Where it's all about you. It's all about me. Where we are the center of it all.

Daniel is a book about how to live as an exile.

HOW DO WE EXIST WHEN WHERE WE ARE IS NOT OUR PLACE AND NOT OUR PEOPLE?

Will we shrink back or will we Stand Tall?

Daniel 4:4-8, 20-27

A great litmus test to know whether or not you're prideful... if you're not asking for and/or accepting input from Godly people, watch out. God puts those types of people in our lives to protect us from ourselves.

Daniel 4:29-33

If there is one thing God will not tolerate in us...pride.

The center of sin...is pride.

God hates pride.

Proverbs 16:5

Isaiah 13:11

1 Peter 5:5b

Revelation 3:17

There is nothing more threatening to you today than your pride.

Daniel 4 is a warning to us:

1. Pride inflates you. (**Daniel 4:30**)
 - The reason you have what you have...is not primarily because of you. It's from God for you.

2. Pride hardens you.
 - Daniel tried to get Nebuchadnezzar to humble himself before God, but he never fully listened because pride hardens you over time.
3. Pride disfigures you.
 - Pride distorts the image of God in us...

If we're in a place amongst a people who are only promoting pride...how do we resist? How do we stand tall?

Walk the way of humility.

1. The way of humility looks at God. (**Daniel 4:34**)
 - To lift our eyes to Heaven postures us in thankfulness and humility.
2. The way of humility submits to God. (**Daniel 4:34b-35a**)
 - In humility, submit to the divine reality that where you are is the result of God placing you there. It's not primarily your doing. It's His. (**Daniel 4:35b**)
3. The way of humility worships God. (**Daniel 4:37**)
 - God humbles us. Not to hurt us, but to heal us.

Remove yourself from the center of your universe.

We decrease that He might increase. (**John 3:30**)

"...praise and glorify and honor the King of heaven. All His acts are just and true." (**Daniel 4:37**)

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