

P.U.S.H.
Pray Until Something
Happens
Daniel 2:1-23

Sometimes We Have To P.U.S.H. Through!

We Are Guaranteed That Times Of Crises Will Come In Our Lives

- Jesus told us that we shouldn't be surprised when people or situations persecute us because they persecuted Him (Hebrews 4:15,16)
- I would suggest to you that there is at least one good reason God allows difficulties to happen to us:
- ***To Grow Us***
It's nice to be "on the mountaintop," but in the valley, you are forced to rely on God to get through. (Romans 5:3-5 and James 1:2-4, are counterintuitive scriptures that are nevertheless true)

The Trial

Daniel 2:1-10

- In the second year of King Nebuchadnezzar's reign, he began having some bad dreams at night that kept him from sleeping
- He called all of his advisors together; magicians, enchanters, sorcerers, and astrologers demanding them to 1) Tell him what all he had dreamed and 2) What the dreams meant
- If one of his advisors was successful, he promised gifts to that person; but death to every advisor if no one could tell him his dream and the interpretation of it

The Story

- The advisors told him that no man alive could perform what he had asked and to please let them know the gist of the dreams and they would try to help with the interpretation
- He then accused them of stalling and conspiring to lie to him, and to show them that he was serious, ordered all of these advisors executed
- It's interesting that four key people who were working in an advisory capacity for the king were not among those called but would still fall under the decree to be executed (Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, (they were thought to be “ten times” better than all other magicians and astrologers,” Daniel 1:19-20)
- Make sure that your moral advisors in life have a track record of ***spiritual competency!***

The Story

- The king's chief guard, Arioch, was dispatched to execute Daniel and his three Hebrew friends
- Verse 14 says that when Arioch shows up to execute Daniel and his friends, Daniel handles the incident with wisdom and discretion
- What would you do? Where would you go?
- Where does your mind go when you have trials?

You Have Two Lines Of Thinking
Available When Faced With Trials:

Blame God For Your Circumstances!

Or



Go to God With Your Circumstances!

Daniel Went To God With His Circumstances!

- Some examples in the Bible of God's loyalty can show the extreme situations which means to me, he handles **everything** !
King Nebuchadnezzar and his dreams in this story
Jonah in the Belly of the Whale
- Lot when rescued by his uncle Abraham in the wicked city of Sodom
- Daniel went home and notified his Godly friends Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego of his problem, Daniel 2:17-18
“Then Daniel went to his house, and made the decision known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions, that they might seek mercies from the God of heaven concerning this secret, so that Daniel and the rest of his companions might not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon.”

Points To Remember:

- Romans 5 tells us that trials come our way to drive us to holiness
- God is with us during our trials to help us bear our trials spiritually and sometimes spiritually/physically, 1 Corinthians 10:13

“No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.”

The Story

- Notice that Daniel didn't pray alone, but found his three friends to pray with him showing **the power of corporate prayer!**
- Galatians 6:2 ***“Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ***
- ***We are called then to love and pray for one another. When one in the body is suffering with a trial, all of the body is suffering, and we should pray for one another***
- Sadly enough we treat prayer, not as a main wheel in our lives, but like a spare tire - used only when necessary (or even like a doughnut tire)

God Honored The Prayers Of These Four Men

Daniel 2:19-23

“Then the secret was revealed to Daniel in a night vision. So Daniel blessed the God of heaven.

Daniel answered and said:

*Blessed be the name of God forever and ever,
For wisdom and might are His.*

And He changes the times and the seasons:

He removes kings and raises up kings;

Daniel 2:19-23

*“He gives wisdom to the wise
And knowledge to
those who have understanding.*

He reveals deep and secret things;

He knows what is in the darkness,

And light dwells in Him.

I thank You and praise You,

O God of my fathers

You have given me wisdom and might,

Daniel 2:19-23

“...you have made known to me what we asked of you, you have made known to us the dream of the king.”

- **God gives some of His best answers to us in our prayer worship**
- **Meditation with God and scripture study on the problems that we have can be a very present help in time of need**
- *Psalms 119:105 - David said, “Your word is a lamp to my feet, And a light to my path.”*

God Honored The Prayers Of These Four Men

- **Again and again, the scriptures teach us that the prayer of the righteous avails much, James 5:16**
- ***“If”* you want favor with God, have a track record of righteous living**
- **Since the Bible teaches that your trials and my trials are no different from everybody else’s, your prayer life and your righteous living can make all the difference in the world to your success**

The Plan Of Salvation

Hear the Gospel Acts 15:7

Believe the Gospel Acts 15:7

Repent of Sins Acts 17:30

Confess Christ Acts 8:37

Be Baptized Acts 8:38