

New International Version is used for questions

- 1. How are you doing handling this high-paced, constantly changing (many times not in a good way) world that we live in? Do you worry about what is going wrong in the world or do you live in hope of what the future will bring? What worries you most about our society today? How does the fact that God foretold the future through Nebuchadnezzar's dream affect the way you see this world and what is happening?
- 2. What was the last kingdom in Nebuchadnezzar's vision in 2:44,45? What does it represent and what does it mean? Read Isaiah 26:3,4. What must we do when we are worried about the future?
- 3. Read Daniel 2:19,20. What was Daniel's response to the fact that God answered their prayers and revealed the dream and its meaning to them? What answered prayer in the past have you praised God for answering? What are you praising God for today in your life? (Go around your group and let those who want share what they praise God for now). Is there anything you should be praising God for and are not?
- 4. Read Hebrews 12:28,29 and 2 Corinthians 4:18. Based on what these verses say, how should we live our lives? Why? Whenever you leave this world what will you take with you? Read 1 Corinthians 3:10-15. What will you have in eternity from how you lived your life now?
- 5. What were the five keys to developing a resilient vision that Pastor Rick shared? Which one do you need to constantly remind yourself to do in order to live a joyful life?

Answers

- 1. The fact that God has foretold the future and that He is in control of where everything is going and that we win in the end should give us great hope for the future. Even when things get crazy in this world, we know God has a plan that we are included in and everything turns out well for us.
- 2. The last kingdom was the rock that turns into a giant mountain which represents God's kingdom and that everything will conclude in this world the way God has sovereignly decided. When we are worried about the future, we should focus on God and let him give us the peace of knowing He has everything in His hands.
- 3. Daniel's response to God answering their prayers for him to reveal the dream to them was that he praised God for providing the answer.
- 4. Based on what those passages say, we should live our lives as if that which is eternal is our true reality; what we are going through now is just a blink of an eye compared to the eternity we will live, so eternal things are the most important things to live for. When we leave this world, the only thing we leave with is our soul and spirit, everything else is left behind. 1 Corinthians 3 says that if we will live for the things of the Lord while in this world, then we will be rewarded in eternity. If we do not, then our entire lives will have been wasted because everything we lived for will be gone. 1 Corinthians 3 is an account of what happens at the Judgement Seat of Christ, which every believer will go through to give account for how we lived our lives.
- 5. The five keys were: a. Seek God in a shaky world instead of panicking; b. Surround myself with friends committed to prayer; c. Praise God for who He is before I ever see what he does; d. Live for God's unshakeable kingdom, not this temporary world; and e. Use God's vision to be a blessing to others.