

(Questions for Small Groups & Individuals - from Pastor Mark's sermon on 6-27-10)

## **The Book of Daniel – Chapter 5**

### **“Recognizing the Hand of God”**

[Many of the questions have no right or wrong answer but are meant to promote discussion (or individual contemplation) about the scriptural principles involved. If you have difficult questions (that cannot be resolved in your small group), please feel free to contact Pastor Mark. **To the Small Group Facilitator:** There may not be time to discuss all of the questions. Always feel free to skip some questions so that you can focus on those that are most important for your group to discuss.]

#### **READ Daniel 5:1-6, 23**

**Question #1:** Pastor Mark said that pride is the opposite of worship. How does pride interfere with worship?

**Question #2:** Why were Belshazzar's actions so significant that they had to be confronted with the “Hand of God?” When we step out of His will, God will do what ever it takes to get our attention. Have you ever experienced God's hand in your life?

#### **READ Daniel 5:7-12**

**Question #3:** The queen was not attending Belshazzar's party. Pastor Mark suggested that she showed wisdom in this, having seen God's dealings with his grandfather Nebuchadnezzar. Have there been times in your life when you showed similar wisdom?

#### **READ Daniel 5:13-17**

**Question #4:** What did King Belshazzar offer Daniel if he could interpret the writing on the wall? What was Daniel's response? Pastor Mark said that there are some people that are willing to make a profit preaching a message that the people want to hear. Can someone in your group share a time when they were tempted to say or do the convenient thing instead of the Godly thing?

#### **READ Daniel 5:18-23**

**Question #5:** Daniel proceeded to chastise Belshazzar for not learning from his grandfather's experience (see verse 22). Pastor Mark told us to learn from others mistakes and successes. The word he used for this was Mentoring. Pastor said that mentoring is an activity that we all should be engaged in. Are you in the process of mentoring or being mentored by someone else? If not, are you willing to start?

#### **READ Daniel 5:24-29, Isaiah 44:27 - 45:7**

**Question #6:** Who in this world has been weighed and NOT found deficient? What is God's solution to this problem? What have you done (or need to do) to put yourself in right standing with the Lord?

#### **READ Daniel 5:30-31, Romans 3:23, 6:23**

**Question #7:** Pastor Mark emphasized the urgency of sharing God's good news. He reminded us that fulfilled prophecy serves as a tool to demonstrate God's truth with others. What is God calling you to do in sharing with others this message?