

# THE BOOK OF DANIEL

**SERIES TITLE: The Book of Daniel**

**SERMON TITLE: Prayer Lessons**

**KEY TEXT (NKJV): Daniel 9, Daniel 10:1-13, Exodus 34:6-7a, Psalms 27:7-8, Jeremiah 25:12, Acts 4:23-31.**

**Big Idea:** The story of Daniel reminds us that no matter how uncertain or challenging our circumstances may be, God remains sovereign. Taken from his homeland and pressured to conform to a different way of life, Daniel chose unwavering faith over compromise, and God honoured him with wisdom, influence, and protection. Like Daniel, we face cultural and personal pressures that test our faith, yet nothing, political shifts, personal trials, or societal expectations, can override His plans for us. Our role is to trust His faithfulness, stand firm in obedience, and be vessels of His influence wherever we are, knowing He is working all things for His purpose.

In this fifth sermon of the series, Pastor Walker teaches us that prayer should be a consistent lifestyle rooted in Scripture and backed by trusting Him to work behind the scenes even when we do not see instant answers.

## **Daniel 9:1-5, 16-18 NKJV**

<sup>1</sup>In the first year of Darius, son of Xerxes (a Mede by descent), who was made ruler over the Babylonian kingdom, <sup>2</sup>in the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, understood from the Scriptures, according to the word of the Lord given to Jeremiah the prophet, that the desolation of Jerusalem would last seventy years. <sup>3</sup>So I turned to the Lord God and pleaded with him in prayer and petition, in fasting, and in sackcloth and ashes. <sup>4</sup>I prayed to the Lord my God and confessed: "Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and keep his commandments, <sup>5</sup>we have sinned and done wrong. We have been wicked and have rebelled; we have turned away from your commands and laws.

<sup>16</sup>Lord, in keeping with all your righteous acts, turn away your anger and your wrath from Jerusalem, your city, your holy hill. Our sins and the iniquities of our ancestors have made Jerusalem and your people an object of scorn to all those around us. <sup>17</sup>"Now, our God, hear the prayers and petitions of your servant. For your sake, Lord, look with favour on your desolate sanctuary. <sup>18</sup>Give ear, our God, and hear; open your eyes and see the desolation of the city that bears your Name. We do not make requests of you because we are righteous but because of your great mercy.

God Bless You!

The Connection Groups Office

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***Leader Heads-Up:*** *Is everyone in the meeting? Let us know **who's here** and **check in** on those **who aren't!***

## **A. Start Talking**

What is one habit or routine in your life that shapes your spiritual growth the most?

## **B. Start Thinking**

1. Daniel responded to troubling times by seeking God. When faced with difficult situations, in what practical way will you seek God first rather than relying on your understanding? Read **Daniel 9:3 NKJV** and **Psalms 27:7-8 NKJV**.
2. Share a time when you prayed without Biblical light and understanding. How will you ensure that your prayers align with God's Word rather than just your desires? Read **Daniel 9:2 NKJV** and **Numbers 14:19 NKJV**
3. Have you ever prayed for something and felt like nothing was happening? How will you stay encouraged in those times, knowing God is working behind the scenes? Read **Daniel 10:12 NKJV**.

## **C. Start Praying**

Pray that you will seek God first in every situation, with the understanding of His Word, and trust that He is working even when you do not see it.

## **D. Start Doing**

1. Turn to God in prayer and fasting when faced with uncertainty rather than relying on human solutions.
2. Base your prayers on God's promises and truth, just as Daniel prayed with understanding from Jeremiah's prophecy.
3. Let Scripture shape your prayers by acknowledging God's righteousness, mercy, and the consequences of sin, as Daniel did.
4. Believe that God is working behind the scenes in response to your prayers, even when answers seem delayed

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