

How to Face the Future With Confidence

Daniel 2

Series: Generation Next - Part 2

Introduction - Fear Of The Future!!!

“Generation Next” has grown up in a world that has eroded their confidence in . . .

- ◆ **Institutions**
- ◆ **The Family**
- ◆ **The Future**

So . . . how can we be a part of God’s plan to help them face the future with confidence?

Daniel Chapter 2

The Historical Setting - v. 1-3

- 603-602 B.C. - Nebuchadnezzar's Second Year
- Daniel, 20 Years Old - Joined King's Staff
- Problems In The Kingdom
- Problems With The King = "A Disturbing Dream"

The Development Of Daniel's Personal Crisis - v. 4-13

- The King's Impossible Request - "Tell Me"
- The Wise Men's Desperation - "How?"
- The King's Decree = "Kill Them All"

Daniel's Response To Personal Crisis = Faith - v. 14-24

- His Poise - v. 4-16 - _____
- His Prayer - v. 17-19a - _____
- His Praise - v. 19b-23 - _____
- His Proclamation - v. 24 - _____

The Dream Revealed - The Future Foretold - v. 25-49

- The King's Dream Revealed - v. 25-35
- The King's Dream Interpreted - v. 36-45
- The King's Response To Daniel - v. 46-49

LIFE LESSONS FROM DANIEL 2

1. We can face the future with confidence when we trust/ believe **God knows** all about our problems today and is **in control** of all our tomorrows.
2. Cultivating our children's faith is the **#1 priority** in the "conviction building" process. Hebrews 11:6
3. Faith is not developed in a vacuum.
 - It must be _____. (Hebrews 11)

Crises are opportunities God gives us to teach our children how to trust Him and allow them to experience God's power through us. James 1:2-4

- It must be _____. (Romans 10:13)

Daniel's prayer (vs. 19-23) reveals that his mind was saturated with an **accurate view of God** and an **extensive grasp of the Scriptures**.

- It must be _____. (James 2:14-19)

When we solve all our children's problems, protect them from every danger, and answer all their questions, we **rob them of the very things God uses** to make them the kind of young adults we long for them to become.

Discussion Questions

1. What kind of things tend to cause you to feel afraid about the future?
2. What did you learn from Daniel's response (at age 20) that might encourage you in your fear about the future?
3. Discuss what it means to have "faith." What absolute conviction did Daniel have about God's character that sustained him?
4. Discuss how faith is developed. Where and how are you cooperating with God to allow Him to build your faith? The faith of your children or other young people?
5. What specific action step would God have you take in response to this message?