



First Baptist Church of Cypress
Having A Godly Vision
Daniel 2

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In December 2017, I visited this church with my twin brother after having a meeting with Mike Proud about coming to Revitalize First Baptist Church of Cypress. That was the time I started praying for you and for the future of this church. I looked at the homes, the schools, the facilities all the possibilities and wonder what was it that was holding this church back from God's vision? I am here today in the same boat with you taking a risk and trusting in God to lead us as a church together. Eric Geiger, Pastor at Christ Fellowship in Miami, FL says, "Everyone's energy must move in the same direction as the church and has to have the same foundation process for each program."

- 1. What kind of disciple of Christ do we want to produce at First Baptist Church?**
- 2. What does it scripturally mean to be a disciple of Christ?**
- 3. What is the measure of success for our Church?**

"And I will make every effort so that after my departure you may be able at any time to recall these things." 2 Peter 1:15

- Our Mission statement should line up with SCRIPTURE, grow the FELLOWSHIP of believers, and connect to our CULTURE.

Currently viewing this statement for the Church Vision:

- **We teach the gospel of Jesus Christ to MAKE, MATURE, and MULTIPLY disciples of Christ who reach neighborhoods and nations.**

Why should we have a goal? All of us have specific goals or purpose in our life: What is the goal as a parent or an influencer to those younger? What is your purpose to be a good employee, worker or student? What is your goal as a follower of Jesus? Jesus had a goal to see...

"this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come." Matthew 24:14

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." Matthew 28:19-20

"when the Holy Spirit has come upon you and you will be my witnesses" Acts 1:8

4. What is our purpose to accomplish? "disciples of Christ"
5. What is the benefit or result of the work? "reach"
6. Who will be served? "neighborhood and nations"
7. How will this be accomplished? "make, mature, & multiply"

So, do we have a godly vision? One of the song lyrics of the Christian rock band Sidewalk Prophets says, *"Be strong in the Lord and never give up hope. You're gonna do great things I already know. God's got his hand on you so don't live life in fear forgive and forget but don't forget why you're here. Take your time and pray. These are the words I would say."* Let us Read Daniel chapter 2:1-19,

Daniel 2:1-19

"In the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; his spirit was troubled, and his sleep left him. ² Then the king commanded that the magicians, the enchanters, the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans be summoned to tell the king his dreams. So they came in and stood before the king. ³ And the king said to them, "I had a dream, and my spirit is troubled to know the dream." ⁴ Then the Chaldeans said to the king in Aramaic, "O king, live forever! Tell your servants the dream, and we will show the interpretation." ⁵ The king answered and said to the Chaldeans, "The word from me is firm: if you do not make known to me the dream and its interpretation, you shall be torn limb from limb, and your houses shall be laid in ruins. ⁶ But if you show the dream and its interpretation, you shall receive from me gifts and rewards and great honor. Therefore show me the dream and its interpretation." ⁷ They answered a second time and said, "Let the king tell his servants the dream, and we will show its interpretation." ⁸ The king answered and said, "I know with certainty that you are trying to gain time, because you see that the word from me is firm— ⁹ if you do not make the dream known to me, there is but one sentence for you. You have agreed to speak lying and corrupt words before me till the times change. Therefore tell me the dream, and I shall know that you can show me its interpretation." ¹⁰ The Chaldeans answered the king and said, "There is not a man on earth who can meet the king's demand, for no great and powerful king has asked such a thing of any magician or enchanter or Chaldean. ¹¹ The thing that the king asks is difficult,

and no one can show it to the king except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh.” ¹² Because of this the king was angry and very furious, and commanded that all the wise men of Babylon be destroyed. ¹³ So the decree went out, and the wise men were about to be killed; and they sought Daniel and his companions, to kill them. ¹⁴ Then Daniel replied with prudence and discretion to Arioch, the captain of the king's guard, who had gone out to kill the wise men of Babylon. ¹⁵ He declared to Arioch, the king's captain, “Why is the decree of the king so urgent?” Then Arioch made the matter known to Daniel. ¹⁶ And Daniel went in and requested the king to appoint him a time, that he might show the interpretation to the king. ¹⁷ Then Daniel went to his house and made the matter known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions, ¹⁸ and told them to seek mercy from the God of heaven concerning this mystery, so that Daniel and his companions might not be destroyed with the rest of the wise men of Babylon. ¹⁹ Then the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a vision of the night. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven.”

The point of this book is to show the Israelites and the Babylonians and every other nation that there is one God who reigns supreme and sovereign over everything.

I. We are INSTRUMENTS for God to Spread His Gospel! (v 1-16)

- God EQUIPS us for the TASK
- God EXPRESSES the Need for His GLORY
- God EXTENDS His Calling to ALL Believers

II. We Must Be Fully DEPENDENT on the POWER of God. (v 17-19, 27-30, 36-37)

- We TRUST in the Power of GOD Not Man.

III. We Must LIVE for the PRAISES of God. (v 20-23, 46)

- God ALWAYS gives His power for His praise.

“King Nebuchadnezzar fell upon his face and paid homage to Daniel and commanded that an offering and incense be offered up to him. The king

answered and said to Daniel, 'Truly, your God is a God of gods and a Lord of kings and a revealer of mysteries, for you have been able to reveal this mystery.'" **Daniel 2:46**

This is astounding. This is the most powerful king in the world at the time, bowing at the feet of an exile from Jerusalem and giving praise to His God. Here's the picture: God is so passionate about his praise. They made known among all the nations that he will send his servants through a furnace or into a lion's den to bring it about. Do not trust in your own power and live for your own praise but live to praise God so the world will praise him. Are you thankful for a God who is in control of all things? A God who hears our prayers and answers them? Our vision and purpose must be his vision and purpose: I'm thankful God uses us to for His Glory!