

2 0 2 3 J U N E 2 5

the GOOD News

SPRING WARRIOR CHURCH OF CHRIST
7432 S. RED PADGETT RD.
PERRY, FL 32348

Walking in the Light, In a World of Darkness

Chuck Richardson

Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, took the vessels of the house of God and put them in the treasury of the house of his god. Then he chose certain young men to serve him in his royal court (Dan. 1:1-3). If not for the captivity of Judah and the destruction of Jerusalem, Daniel and his companions would have been serving in the court of the king of Judah (Dan. 1:3,4).

We should have an appreciation of Daniel's experience (though we're not slaves in a royal court), because like Daniel we also live in a dark world dominated by sin and wicked rulers who demand our obedience to darkness. In light of our VBS studies in Daniel this year, I want to highlight three practices we must engage if we're going to succeed in walking in the light. (Eph. 5:7-10)

1. We may not get to choose our circumstance, but we get to choose how we respond to it. Daniel and companions could have "got along to get along" since they didn't choose to be in the Babylonian court. But compromise wasn't an opposition because they walked in the Light. Daniel and friends would not eat food potentially defiling, and they would not worship a god that wasn't the true God Jehovah. (Dan. 1 & 4). More often in our lives, we have much smaller choices to make at the first, and what we choose will be the indicator of our choices when it matters the most. As a teen or young adult, you may be challenged with an ethical dilemma of little to no consequence in the work place, how will you choose? What if you were asked to omit something that may affect a customer's decision to make a particular purchase, and that purchase wasn't likely to affect their use in the near term or be traced back to your omission? These seemingly small choices prepare us for the greater ones, remember Joseph's choice? (Gen. 39) Will you do the right thing when it doesn't seem to

be important? (Dan. 1:8-15) Will you tell someone what they need to hear though it is terrible news? (Dan. 4:19-27)

2. Faith demands Trusting the LORD with all our might. Daniel and friends were faced with the terrible force of the rulers of their time (Dan. 3 & 6). What could be more frightening than a fiery furnace and a den of hungry lions? What heinously painful destruction will you endure for the sake of your faith? John tells the church of Smyrna, "He who overcomes will not be hurt by the second death" (Rev. 2:11). Picture the scene: Daniel 3:13-18. Even if He (Our GOD) does not deliver us we will not worship any other gods was their response. There was only one death they cared about.
3. Prayerful communication regularly and fervently is a must if we're to walk in the Light. Daniel was faced with his first crisis when Nebuchadnezzar decreed all the wise men were to be slain since no one could tell the dream and its interpretation (Dan. 2:13). But Daniel, with discretion and discernment asked for time to provide what the king asked and went promptly to his friends, "so that they might request compassion from the God of heaven concerning this mystery, so that Daniel and his friends would not be destroyed with the rest of the wise men of Babylon." (Dan. 2:18 NASB) Daniel would continue even to old age to pray to God, as was his custom, even during troubling times (Dan. 6:10-11). The temporal outcome wasn't important in the final analysis. Their relationship with Jehovah caused Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, to walk in the Light in a World full of Darkness. Jesus also showed us how it is done (Luk. 22:39-46). Let us Walk in the Light!

Activities

Sunday June 25, 2023

10:30 AM Worship Service

Announcements: *Scott Mixon*

Scripture Reading: *Kim Howell*

1John 1:5-10

Song Leader: *James Bethea*

Memorial Leader: *Buddy Bethea*

Memorial Ass.: *Ryan Baker*

Memorial Ass.: *Lavern Levingston*

Memorial Ass.: *Philip Richardson*

Lesson: *Chuck Richardson*

**What if you carried your Bible around
and used it like your phone?**

6:00 PM Worship Service

Announcement: *Scott Mixon*

Scripture Reading: *Ben Richardson*

Acts 8:25-38

Song Leader: *Ryan Baker*

Lesson: *Chuck Richardson*

TBD

Memorial Leader: *Buddy Bethea*

Wednesday June 28, 2023

7:00 PM Bible Study/Worship

Announcement: *Chuck Richardson*

Auditorium Teacher: *Chuck Richardson*

Song Leader: *Randy Baker*

Lesson & Invitation: *Buddy Bethea*

Special Studies

Vacation Bible School

June 26-30 @ 10AM

“Walking In The Light”

A Look At Daniel’s Life

Daniel 1-6

Wednesday Night Of VBS

(ALL AGES IN AUDITORIUM)

Special Works

Memory Work, Faith Builders, & Defense Builders

Drill Class Sunday’s at 5:20pm [for all ages]

Scripture(s) For The Week

Daniel 3:16-18 (NASB) Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego replied to the king, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to give you an answer concerning this matter. 17 If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire; and He will deliver us out of your hand, O king. 18 But even if He does not, let it be known to you, O king, that we are not going to serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.”

Request A Bible Study: (662) 212-3883
letsstudyourbible@gmail.com