

Asking for Help

When might people need help?

What might keep people from asking for help?

Do you need help today? Does someone you love need help?

1

Look Up

Daniel 4

tiny.cc/cmchandouts

bib.ly/Dan4.NIV



2

The story of Daniel so far...

King Nebuchadnezzar

– Supreme ruler of the Babylonian empire, ~600 BC

Cp.1: Exiles **honored God above Nebuchadnezzar**,
and God honored them for it

Cp.2: Nebuchadnezzar had a dream,
and **only Daniel's God could explain it**

Cp.3: The king demanded all to worship his statue or die
They chose to worship God, and God rescued them

Theme: God is far greater than human kings & kingdoms
even while God's people were in exile

3

Daniel 4

1-3: "God is the most high God over everyone"

- Letter from the greatest king to all people

4-18: Dream: a tree and a cow → God is God over all

- The king needed help to understand the rebuke!

19-27: Daniel interpreted the dream

- And gave a warning/invitation to repent
- God wants transformation, not just compliance

28-33: The king didn't change, and the dream happened

34-37: The king was restored, and he praised God

- It took him **8 years** to "look up"

4

The Big Idea

**God rules over everything and everyone
(even when it doesn't look like it)
and He mercifully leads people to thrive under Him
when we (finally) look up to Him**

5



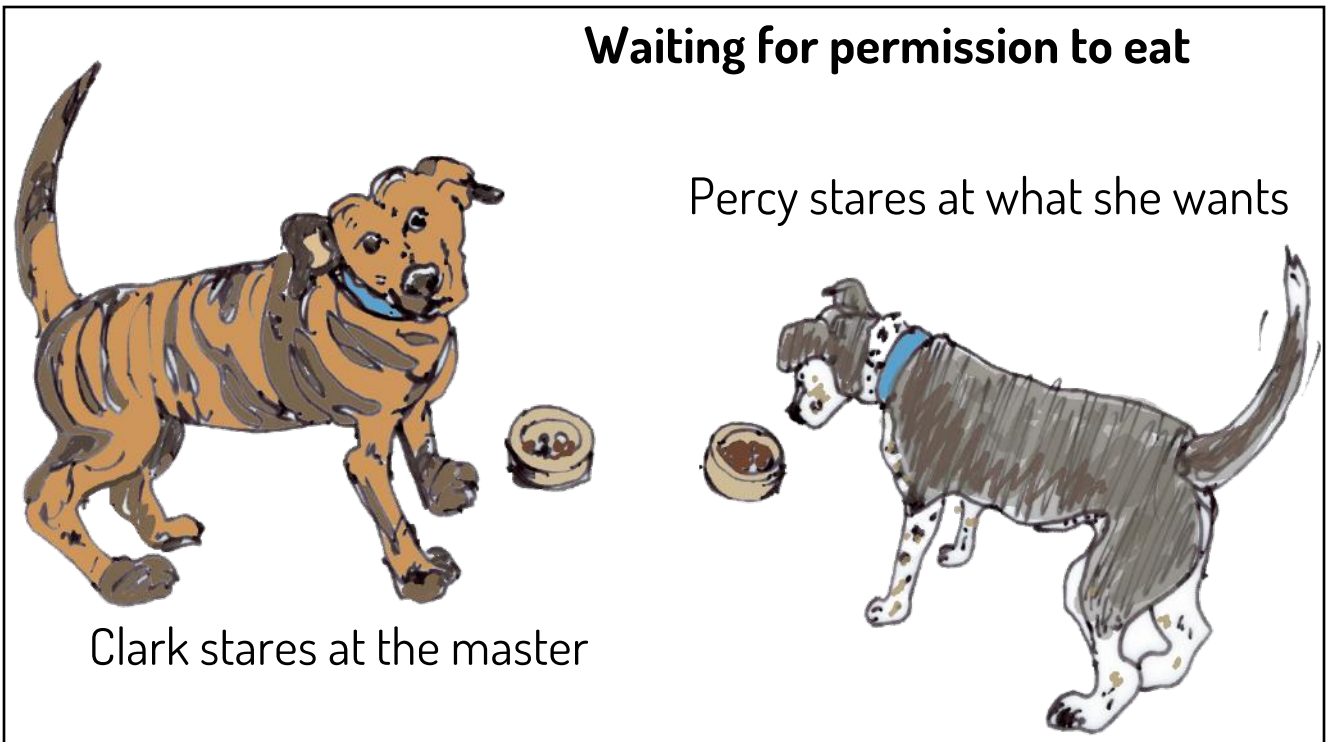
Waiting for permission to eat

6



Waiting for permission to eat

7



Waiting for permission to eat

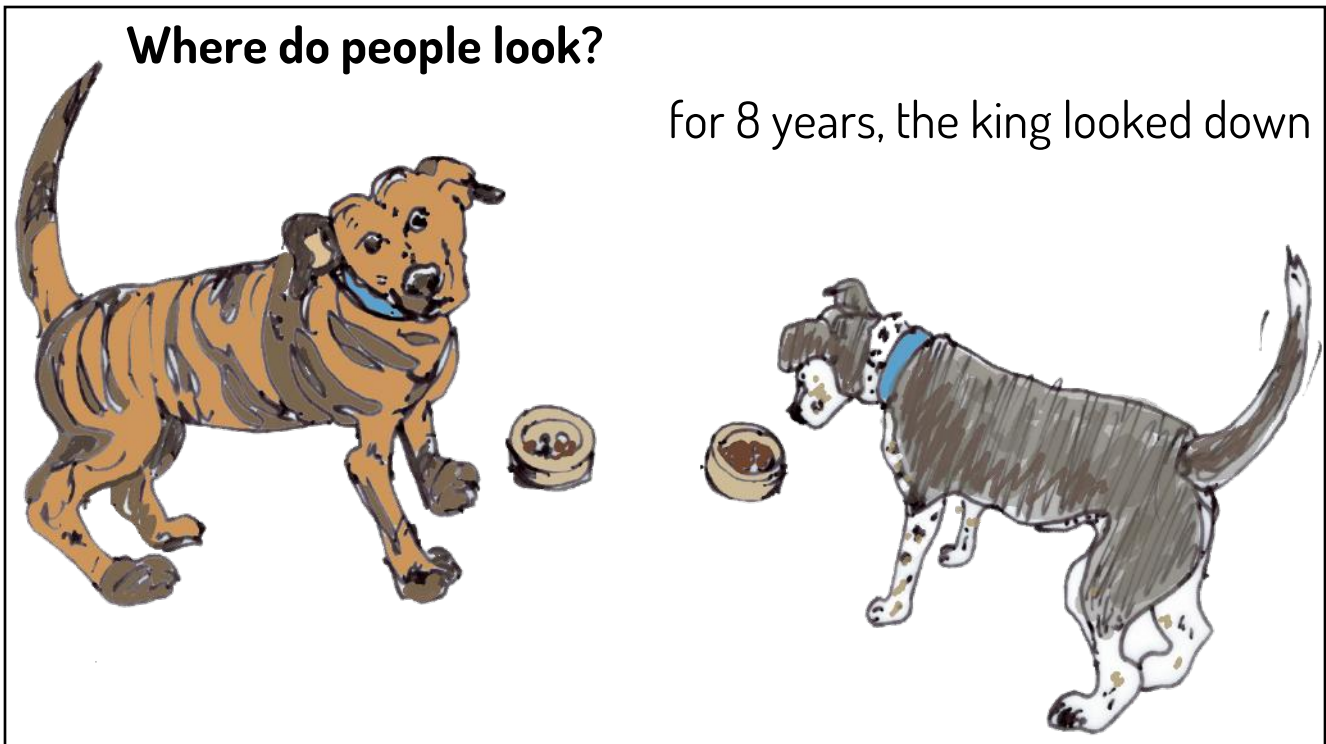
Percy stares at what she wants

Clark stares at the master

8



9



10



11



12



13

The Big Idea

God rules over everything and everyone

(even when it doesn't look like it)

and He mercifully leads people to thrive under Him

when we (finally) look up to Him

“At the end of that time, I, Nebuchadnezzar,
raised my eyes toward heaven, and my sanity was restored.”

Daniel 4:34

14

Paul prayed for God's healing, and God said "No"

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. **For when I am weak, then I am strong.**

2 Corinthians 12:9-10

"The less I have, the more I depend upon Him."

Those who need God more, know God more,
when they look up to Him.

15

Application



- **Look up to God**

- In every situation

Success	Failure	Pleasure	Pain or suffering	Conflict
Guilt or shame	Anger	Fear	When at peace	When troubled
At the start of the day	At the end of the day			

- Peter walked on water while he looked at Jesus.

- When he looked at the wind and waves, he started to sink
- **He finally turned his eyes back up to Jesus, who saved him**

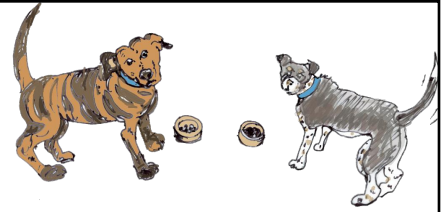
- How long does it take for us to look up?

- **Sadly, I keep hoping I won't need to trust God**

- **But God keeps hoping I'll trust Him more!**

16

Application



- **Look up to God**
- **Especially in trouble and suffering**
 - **God gave the king trouble** in his desire to show him mercy
 - The trouble continued until he looked up to God
 - **Suffering has a kindly role in the hands of God**
 - **Yet I keep hoping that I won't need faith in God's goodness!**
 - "I'll lift my cup, whether full or empty, to you"
 - A vast army came to attack Israel. The king prayed:
 "Our God...we have no power to face this vast army that is attacking us. **We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you.**" *1 Chronicles 20:12*

17

The Big Idea

**God rules over everything and everyone
 (even when it doesn't look like it)
 and He mercifully leads people to thrive under Him
 when we (finally) look up to Him**

Humility

“Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.
 They will soar on wings like eagles;
 they will run and not grow weary,
 they will walk and not be faint.” *Isaiah 40:31*

18

In whatever trouble or goodness we are in today...
will we look up to God, to know Him more?
Will you do that now?



19

To the nations and peoples of every language, who live in all the earth: May you prosper greatly!

It is my pleasure to tell you about the miraculous signs and wonders that **the Most High God** has performed for me.

How great are his signs,

how mighty his wonders!

His kingdom is an eternal kingdom;

his dominion endures from generation to generation.

Christ we proclaim, the Name above every name;

For all creation, every nation, God's salvation through the Son!

20