

“But the king said to the astrologers, “I am serious about this. If you don’t tell me what my dream was and what it means, you will be torn limb from limb, and your houses will be turned into heaps of rubble! But if you tell me what I dreamed and what the dream means, I will give you many wonderful gifts and honors. Just tell me the dream and what it means!”” Daniel 2:5-6 NLT

[lectio] // DANIEL 2:1-19

listen to the text by reading out loud slowly and repeat up to 3x if desired

[meditatio]

reflect on – what word, words, phrase, or sentence speaks to you from the text, then write them down

This is typical, maniacal, king behavior. All powerful, all controlling, all commanding. But this king, Nebuchadnezzar, who was only in his second year of reign, didn’t trust anyone. He thought his advisors would lie and make up an interpretation, so he demanded they tell him his dream AND the interpretation! They said, “The king’s demand is impossible. No one except the gods can tell you your dream, and they do not live here among people.” And the king had them all killed. Who wants to be an advisor to the king? Daniel asks everyone to pray and part of his prayer is recorded. He declares, “He controls the course of world events; he removes kings and sets up other kings. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the scholars.” - Daniel 2:21 God controls the course of world events. He is ALWAYS right, true and just. His plans, which were formed before the earth was created, are perfect and will accomplish all that God has designed.

[oratio]

pray as responding to the words, phrase, sentence that God has stirred within you

Dad,
 Since you have designed your plans before the earth was created, from the beginning of time itself, you must have seen me show up in those plans. I may be as small as a dust particle, but within me exists your spirit because you put your imprint on my human heart. Beyond that you know, you saw that I am born, agreed to your terms and committed to live all of my life towards accomplishing your plan (as it pertains to my life). So, if this is what you have for me, if this is what you want from me, if this is the role I must play (because of angst, pride, frustration, sin or simply improving my station in life) so be it. I accept it as you see fit. I do not control the course of world events, I only serve the God who does. On this 301 day of sidelining, I submit to you. I have plans, I have ideas and I’ll pursue them to the best of my ability amidst this foggy season. If you choose to favor those, so be it. If you desire to let them fall to the ground and die, so be it. I am in your hands. My duplicitous, sinful heart is yours.

[contemplatio]

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root