

# STAND

Order of Service | April 16-17, 2016

Worship Team .....	Shout Hosanna
Greeting/Welcome	
Worship Team .....	Manifesto In Christ Alone
Message .....	Pastor Jay Bruner Stand (Part 3)
Offering/Announcements/Dismissal	

## STAND UP

Daniel 4

*“While I was lying in my bed, this is what I dreamed. I saw a large tree in the middle of the earth. The tree grew very tall and strong, reaching high into the heavens for all the world to see. It had fresh green leaves, and it was loaded with fruit for all to eat. Wild animals lived in its shade, and birds nested in its branches. All the world was fed from this tree.*

*“Then as I lay there dreaming, I saw a messenger, a holy one, coming down from heaven. The messenger shouted, ‘Cut down the tree and lop off its branches! Shake off its leaves and scatter its fruit! Chase the wild animals from its shade and the birds from its branches. But leave the stump and the roots in the ground, bound with a band of iron and bronze and surrounded by tender grass.*

*Now let him be drenched with the dew of heaven, and let him live with the wild animals among the plants of the field. For seven periods of time, let him have the mind of a wild animal instead of the mind of a human. For this has been decreed by the messengers it is commanded by the holy ones, so that everyone may know that the Most High rules over the kingdoms of the world”...*

*“Upon hearing this, Daniel (also known as Belteshazzar) was overcome for a time, frightened by the meaning of the dream. Then the king said to him, ‘Belteshazzar, don’t be alarmed by the dream and what it means.’...*

*(Daniel said)... ‘I wish the events foreshadowed in this dream would happen to your enemies, my lord, and not to you...! That tree, Your Majesty, is you... You will be driven from human society, and you will live in the*

*fields with the wild animals. You will eat grass like a cow, and you will be drenched with the dew of heaven. Seven periods of time will pass while you live this way, until you learn that the Most High rules over the kingdoms of the world and gives them to anyone He chooses. But the stump and roots of the tree were left in the ground. This means that you will receive your kingdom back again when you have learned that heaven rules. Daniel 4:10-17, 19, 22, & 25-26 (NLT)*

*“King Nebuchadnezzar, please accept my advice.’ Stop sinning and do what is right. Break from your wicked past and be merciful to the poor. Perhaps then you will continue to prosper.’ Daniel 4:27 (NLT)*

*“After this time had passed, I, Nebuchadnezzar, looked up to heaven. My sanity returned, and I praised and worshiped the Most High and honored the one who lives forever... Daniel 4:34 (NLT)*

## **How to STAND UP for the right reason, the right way...**

Pray and listen to God.

Look out for the other’s best interest.

Measure your words carefully.

Humbly and gently tell them with the end in mind.

Trust God with the outcome.

**Going deeper on your own.** Get your Bible, a piece of paper and a pen. Look up Daniel chapter 4. Read it slowly and out loud. Now, answer the following questions. Why do you think God used Daniel to interpret Nebuchadnezzar’s dream? The passage says when Daniel heard the dream he paused and was frightened. What do you think he was thinking and processing during that time? Nebuchadnezzar obviously saw Daniel was stressed, yet he told him not to be afraid to tell him the truth. Why do you think Nebuchadnezzar said that to him? What do you think Daniel was hoping would come out of his telling Nebuchadnezzar the truth? What benefit did Daniel get from this entire event? Who is God encouraging you to *Stand Up* to? Why? Who would benefit from your *Standing Up*? What is holding you back? Is it time for you to take a Stand?