

## THRIVING IN BABYLON

The Hope of Babylon

Daniel 1-6

WE ARE NOT TO FEAR BABYLON,
WE ARE TO BE THE HOPE OF BABYLON

THE HOPE OF BABYLON - GOD'S People, GOD'S Family, GOD'S Church

You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden... In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father. Matthew 5:14 & 16 (NLT)

...God's family is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth. 1 Timothy 3:15 (GWT)

How do I become THE HOPE OF BABYLON? (lessons from Daniel)

1.	I must commit to _	being	a part of GOD'S _	<u>Family</u>	••
His	HOPE				

Daniel spoke with the attendant who had been appointed by the chief of staff to look after Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. "Please test us..." Daniel 1:11-12 (NLT)

Then Daniel went home and **told his friends** Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah what had happened. **He urged them** to ask **the God of heaven** to show them his mercy by telling them the secret...That night the secret was revealed to Daniel in a vision. **Daniel 2:17-19 (NLT)** 

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego replied, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you." Daniel 3:16 (NLT)

2. I must	commit to	sharing in t	he <u>risk</u>	&	responsibility
of GOD'S	<u>Family</u>	ے His	HOPE		

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego replied, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you. If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God whom we serve is able to save us... But even if he doesn't,... we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up." Daniel 3:16-18 (NLT)

Then Nebuchadnezzar said, "Praise to the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego!... There is no other god who can rescue like this!"

Daniel 3:28-29 (NLT)

3. I must commit to sharing in the <u>mission</u> of GOD'S <u>Family</u> ... His <u>HOPE</u>

During the reigns of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom (His Kingdom on earth) that will never be destroyed or conquered. It will crush all these kingdoms into nothingness, and it will stand forever.

Daniel 2:44 (NLT)

Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Matthew 28:19-20 (NLT)

**Going deeper on your own:** Review today's message notes. Read Acts 2 in its entirety. Then read Acts 2:42-47 again. Now read Hebrews 10:25. How can belonging to God's family help you thrive in times like these? What keeps you from joining God's Church? Pray and talk to God about becoming part of His family. Then choose to step into the family known as Center Point Church. Our next membership class will be on Sunday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. We hope to see you there.