



JUST TELL YOUR STORY

KEY SCRIPTURES: Daniel 4:1-3, Psalm 2:8, 1 Peter 5:7

Hello friends. Today I just wanted to share something that was on my heart after I was doing a little bible reading earlier.

I was totally, unexpectedly taken to a question that God had for me that I didn't expect when I started reading. Innocently enough I was just reading in Daniel 4 and I had been taken there from a sermon that I was listening to, and I thought, Well, the verses that I had heard about in the sermon were kind of in the middle so I'm just going to go ahead and start at verse 1.

And so I did, and I was just reading along, and I didn't get very far when I realized that this was really, really cool.

Because King Nebuchadnezzar was king over Babylon at the time and the Israelites had been taken into exile. And we might know some very familiar names from this time. We've got Daniel, of course, because that's where King Nebuchadnezzar's words are found, in Daniel, chapter four. But we've also got Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego that are well known for refusing to bow to King Nebuchadnezzar's idol, and they were subsequently thrown into the fiery furnace and there is a fourth one that is walking around with them and they're not even burned. They're not even scorched. They don't even smell like smoke when they're taken out of the fiery furnace. And it really made an impression on everyone standing around.

But what made an impression on me this morning when I was studying Daniel 4 was the words of King Nebuchadnezzar that were recorded by Daniel, that he wanted to give praise to the Most High God. And that it was his pleasure to talk about all of the miracles and wonders that God had done in his life.

And as often happens, I had one thing come into my mind from that, and then another thing. And I started thinking about a song that we used to sing in church. And it was based on Psalm 2:8 when it says that we can ask and God will give the nations to us as an inheritance. And so this song was one of those really awesome ones about, "Just ask God." He will definitely give you people to share your story with.

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"...so we can know our value, live with purpose, and make a difference...[In that order.](#)"



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And like King Nebuchadnezzar was saying, it was his great pleasure to tell everyone what God had done for him. And it made me think about the people that I will tell, but then it also made me think about who I really don't want to ask God for. Because they might be a "tough nut to crack" in my eyes. Or I may get embarrassed. Or I may even lose a friendship or a relationship because I have shared my story. And God definitely got ahold of me on that one.

Like I said, it was totally unexpected that I was going to be challenged by just innocently reading some verses in the fourth chapter of Daniel. But I definitely was. Because there are people in my life that I have been guilty of not asking for them, and instead, actually asking for God to give them to someone else. Asking God to not make me share my story because it could cost me something. It could make things uncomfortable. It could make things awkward. Because I've got people in my life, who, maybe if I shared my story with them, it would be in conflict with the way they have chosen to live their lives, maybe with life choices, lifestyle choices that they have that are in direct conflict with what the Word of God says is right and true, and if I were to share my story, it might jeopardize something. It might jeopardize a relationship. It might jeopardize me not being embarrassed. So, I've asked God, "Can you please give them to someone else?"

It definitely was something that I didn't expect, and something that God dealt with me about because it should be my greatest pleasure to share my story with whoever it is. And God definitely showed me that when I was studying Daniel 4, and then was thinking about Psalm 2:8 when it says for us to ask, and He'll give the nations to us.

And so what I wanted to share with you today was to just to encourage you to know that it's not up to us to decide if they are a "tough nut to crack" or not. Because what's up to us is just to share our story. It's not up to us to convince anyone. That's the Holy Spirit's job. And I am so glad that God reminded me of that, even though it was a little bit of a tough lesson to learn. I'm so glad He reminded me of that, that it's my job to just tell my story. That's what I'm responsible for. I'm not responsible for the outcome. I'm not responsible for whether or not they let anything change them at all. But I am responsible for telling my story. And I'm so glad God reminded me of that, that it's the Holy Spirit's job to decide where it goes from there and to work with them until they decide what they want to let the Holy Spirit do. And I'm so grateful that I could share that with you.

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I hope it encourages you. Definitely just know your story. Know what it is. Know how Jesus loves you. And then you won't need to worry about telling somebody else because the more that you can know how much God loves you and Jesus died for you, the easier it becomes for you to tell your story. And then God will take it from there. So I hope you're encouraged today, friend. Be sure to check out the link below the video if you're watching where you can click on the link, or it will be on my website so that way you can download a discussion starter (or a journaling starter). I've got some additional questions on there. And I hope that you will be encouraged today to share your story and know that God will take care of the rest. Have a wonderful day. God bless you, friends. I'll see you next time.

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