



WHEN IN BABYLON

Daniel 5

WARM UP

What is one thing you are hoping to accomplish before the end of summer?

SET IT UP

In Babylon, the armies of the Medes and Persians were just outside the city and the people inside had an inflated sense of security because the city walls were strong and well defended. Like us, they had a tendency to put off the important. But it was too late. What can we learn about the cost of delaying in our lives?

CHAT IT UP

- 1. On a scale of 1-10, how big a procrastinator are you? (1 = I get 'er done! and 10 = I'll answer you tomorrow.) What's one area where you tend to be more engaged/less engaged?**
- 2. We often turn to something else before God—or when we are waiting for God to come through. What do you turn to?** (Ex: Food, entertainment, worry, anger, pessimism, pleasure, planning.)
- 3. King Belshazzar turned to partying but then God showed up with his judgement. Read Daniel 5:22-23. Why shouldn't he have been surprised?** (Answer: He knew he should honor God but delayed in obeying... until it was too late.)
- 4. Share about a time you procrastinated doing something God wanted you to do.**
- 5. Why do we delay?**
- 6. Have you found anything that helps you live in a way that you don't have many regrets? If so, what helps?**
- 7. The Christian life is listening to God and doing what He says. What is God telling you to do? What's your next step?**

WRAP IT UP

Delay is the deadliest form of denial. Is there a prompting that you've been ignoring? Is there a decision that you've been delaying? Don't delay!

LEADER TIPS

- The final question may work better in smaller, gender specific, groups. Consider breaking up to discuss it and pray.