

Daniel 8 Growth group questions

Personal preparation **BEFORE** the growth group meets:-

Read Daniel 8

Note 1: This vision is set in Susa, in Persia, the empire that conquered Babylon. In this vision Daniel is shown very precise details of things that were to happen in the future.

Note 2: In this chapter the vision is described in verses 1-14 and the interpretation of the vision in verses 15-26.

1. Complete the table

What Daniel saw	What it means
v3- "I looked up, and there before me was a ram with two horns"	
v5- "a goat with a prominent horn"	
v8- "the large horn was broken off, and in its place four prominent horns grew up"	
v9- "Out of one of them came another horn"	
v10- "it threw some of the starry host down to the earth and trampled on them"	
v11- "It set itself up to be as great as the commander of the army of the Lord"	
v12- "It prospered in everything it did, and truth was thrown to the ground."	

Note 3: Daniel's vision provides a good overview of the history of the Greek Empire. Under the leadership of Alexander the Great (v. 21) (ruled 334–323 BC), the Greek Empire grew in size and power. After Alexander's early death, however, the empire was divided amongst four of his generals (v. 22).

Note 4: It is generally considered that the "fierce looking king" (v. 23) is a reference to Antiochus Epiphanes (ruled 175–164 b.c). Epiphanes was a particularly vicious persecutor of God's people and, amongst other things, banned Sabbath-keeping and circumcision amongst the Israelites, violently punished those who disobeyed him, and set up sacrifices to his god in the Jerusalem temple.

2. From these verses what do you learn about the Lord God?

3. From these verses what do you learn about the people of God?

4. How do you think these verses connect with Daniel 7?

5. What emotions do you feel after reading Daniel's vision & the interpretation?

WHEN the growth group meets:-

Read aloud Daniel 8

- a. Share & discuss your answers to Q.1.

- b. Share & discuss your answers to Q.2.

- c. Share & discuss your answers to Q.3.

- d. Share & discuss your answers to Q.4.

- e. Discuss what confuses you from the passage.

- f. Discuss what comforts you in the passage.

- g. Discuss what difference this passage should make to your day to day living for Jesus.

Pray together.