

## Friday

Please read Psalm 139:23–24, Proverbs 21:2 & Hebrews 3:15. Spend an extended time in prayer today. Ask God to search and weigh your heart. Ask Him to show you the warning labels He has for you. Pray that God will soften your heart to His voice and give you a willingness to change.

## Saturday

Please read Romans 5:10. Remember that we are saved by grace, not works. In what way do you need hope today that, though God is warning you, He is also there to help you find your way through?

Please pray for the services this weekend. Ask God to use this study in the book of Daniel to grow each person closer to God. Pray that our church will show compassion to each other and our community.



TWIN LAKES  
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WEEK 5

## God's Warning Labels

JULY 9 & 10, 2011 • RENÉ SCHLAEPFER

King Belshazzar gave a great banquet for a thousand of his nobles... *Daniel 5:1 NIV*

[Daniel said,] "This is what these words mean: **Mene**: God has **numbered** the days of your reign and brought it to an end. **Tekel**: You have been **weighed** on the scales and found wanting. **Peres**: Your kingdom is **divided** and given to the Medes and Persians." *Daniel 5:26–28*

That very night Belshazzar, king of the Babylonians, was slain, and Darius the Mede took over the kingdom, at the age of sixty-two. *Daniel 5:30–31*

### What does this story mean to me?

#### Mene/Numbered

##### WARNING: Quantities are limited

Teach us to **number our days** and recognize how few they are; help us to spend them as we should. *Psalm 90:12 LB*

Question #1: \_\_\_\_\_ ?

#### Tekel/Weighed

##### WARNING: Contents may weigh less than they appear

The LORD is a God who knows, and by him deeds are weighed. *1 Samuel 2:3b*

But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. *Matthew 6:20*

Question #2: \_\_\_\_\_ ?

#### Parsin/Divided

##### WARNING: There are side-effects

Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. **A man reaps what he sows.** The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. *Galatians 6:7–8*

### The law of sowing and reaping

You always reap \_\_\_\_\_ you sow

You always reap \_\_\_\_\_ you sow

You always reap \_\_\_\_\_ you sow

Question #3: \_\_\_\_\_ ?

### Overall warning label from this story:

Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts. *Hebrews 3:15b*  
(Repeated three times in Hebrews)

### Do not despair; there is hope!

For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! *Romans 5:10*

## Daily Meditations

### Monday

Please read Daniel 5:25–31. Write down at least one thing you learned about this passage in last weekend's sermon. How could what you learned impact your life this week?

Think about your life right now. In what area of your life is God giving you a warning label?

*Thank God today for the opportunity to study the Bible and learn. Pray that you will be receptive to God's warning labels and willing to change.*

### Tuesday

Please read Psalms 90:12 & 103:13–18. How do these verses support the fact that, when it comes to our days, quantities are limited?

For some it can be morbid or even depressing to think about the brevity of life. How can it be encouraging to face the fact that our days are numbered?

Think honestly about your life and actions. What would it mean to live like your days are numbered?

continued 

What changes do you need to make right now to start living like that?

*Thank God today for the honesty of the Bible. Thank Him that though our days on earth may be numbered, our days when we will be with Him are as eternal as He is! Pray for the courage to make the necessary changes to line up your actions with the truth of Scripture.*

### Wednesday

Please read 1 Samuel 2:3, Matthew 6:19–34, John 10:10 & Galatians 5:14. Daniel tells Belshazzar that when his life was weighed he was found “wanting.” Yikes! No one wants to hear that! What do the verses you read today say about how to live a life that is not found “wanting”?

What are some parts of your own life where, if you're honest, “contents weigh less than they appear”?

What is your biggest struggle when it comes to letting go of the “lighter” objects in your life?

God does not “weigh” my good deeds to save me; I am saved by His grace. But He does guide me to make wise choices so that I can live abundantly and His will is done on earth as it is in heaven. That's why He wants me to reflect His values. What does it look like to live a life that reflects God's values when it comes to, for example, fun? When it comes to money? When it comes to relationships?

*Thank God today that He doesn't hide His values from us. Thank Him for wanting to see you live an abundant life. Pray that your life, in all its facets, will reflect God's values.*

### Thursday

Please read Galatians 6:7–8. How have you experienced the law of sowing and reaping after you've done something wrong? How about after something good?

How does it help you to remember that choices have “side effects”?

Think about a sin you're struggling with right now. Take a moment to walk through the law of sowing and reaping. In that choice, what would it mean to reap what you sow? Reap more than you sow? Reap later than you sow?

*Thank God today for the honest warnings in the Bible. Pray about the struggles you're facing. Ask God to give you the desire to be honest about the law of reaping and sowing in your life. Pray that you'll make choices with good, long-term consequences!*



Teach us to number our days and recognize how few they are; help us to spend them as we should.  
*Psalm 90:12 LB*