

CSI Congregation of Hudson Valley
Youth Fellowship-2005

January Youth Bible Study Synopsis

Topic: Eschatology- Prophetic dreams of Daniel and Nebuchadnezzar

Place: Ajo and Justin's house

Date: Friday, January 28, 2005

Time: 7:00pm

The 2005 January Bible Study was held on Friday, January 28th, at the residence of Ajo and Justin Cherian. The topic chosen were the prophetic dreams of Daniel and Nebuchadnezzar. The Bible study started at 7:20pm. 13 members including Achen were present. Nibi Mathai, Vinu Abraham, Reena Abraham and Smitha Thampi were also present bringing the total attendance to 17.

We started with an opening prayer led by Ajo Cherian and sang 11 songs before proceeding to the Bible Study. The two speakers who volunteered were:

- 1) Daniel 9:20-27 – Lenu Mathew
- 2) Daniel 2:31-45 – Roshni John

Roshni started by passing out a hand-out of her portion found in Daniel 2:31-45. King Nebuchadnezzar was given power and authority over his kingdom. She stated that what happened in King Nebuchadnezzar's dream is what bothered him the most. In his dream, three other kingdoms would fall and the last kingdom was the farthest moved away of all. In chapter two, we see the image of clay, iron, silver, and gold. The final kingdom was the kingdom that was struck by stone. Nebuchadnezzar was upset that this kingdom would end and that the stone was the reason. The stone is given importance as many believe Jesus Christ is that stone. (Paul in first Corinthians says that rock is Jesus).

Lenu was next and started by letting us know that the book of Daniel is broken into two sections and that the portion that she was assigned was from the latter section (chapters 7-12). In chapter 9 verse 20, we see Daniel praying and he is explaining the vision found in chapter 8. In verse 24, we come across the term "Seventy Sevens" and that there are several theories behind this confusing term. The Seventy Sevens are broken into several parts.

- 1) Seven 7's – A total of 49 years it took to rebuild Jerusalem. (Ezra 1:1-14, 7:11-26 and Nehemiah 2:1-8)
- 2) 490 years before the Messiah comes. In verse 26 we see that three things must occur:
 - a) Messiah to be "cut up."
 - b) The prince shall enter the city (referring to the Antichrist)
 - c) The end will bring total devastation and war.
- 3) There will be Great Tribulation—Rapture.

Achen wrapped up the study by informing us that we should read the book of Daniel if we haven't done so. Achen let us know that God generally gives us warnings before he does anything. He has revealed to Daniel and Nebuchadnezzar about things to come in the future. God can use anyone or anything to prophesize future events as seen in Nebuchadnezzar's case. Achen said that chapter 9 is a key chapter in Daniel. The last seven years of the 490 year reign is known as the Tribulation time and this is where the church would be taken from earth. The 1000 years referred to is the Millennium Rule, and this is where God's will is established.

Daniel was a man of prayer and he encouraged people through the word of God. From the very beginning, Daniel served God and he was faithful to God. God expects us to be faithful to him first. Achen opened the floor up for questions. Ajo asked what do the sevens refer to and Achen replied that the sevens mentioned in Daniel chapter 9 are weeks. Achen let us know that we will be looking into Jesus' teachings on end times and said that we should focus on three

portions (Mathew 24:29-51, Mark 13, Luke 21). Reena and Achen let us know that there are many books and movies about end times, particularly the Left Behind series and John Woolwood's novel Things to Come if anyone is interested.

We then proceeded to prayer time as Justin asked for requests and three people prayed with Achen saying the concluding prayer and benediction. The prayer requests were:

- Justin: Pray for Achen and Kochamma and their children in India as they are trying one last time to get visas for them to come.
- Nibi: Pray for the High school students taking midterms
- Reena: Pray for the victims of the train wreck in California
- Reena: Pray for Robin Samuel (Rockland) who is serving in Iraq
- Justin: Pray for the victims of the Tsunami
- Justin: Pray for both Hudson Valley and Rockland churches and their newly elected officers and all the programs for 2005
- Reena: Pray for the Annual CSI Conference

The Bible study ended at 9:05pm. Afterwards, Justin thanked all those who attended and the speakers and told everyone that the youth board has prepared a Bible study sign up sheet for everyone to fill in their names to either volunteer speaking or hosting. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas S. Cherian volunteered to have it at their place next month. Dinner was served afterwards by the host family.

For his Glory,

Justin Cherian
Youth Secretary