



## **Introduction to “Hearing and Answering”**

In Daniel chapter 10, Daniel gets undeniable, life-changing evidence that God not only hears his prayers, but takes action on account of them. His visions leave them facedown, completely exhausted, and he is touched by a messenger from God multiple times, strengthened and reminded that God has heard and answered his prayers.

This chapter is the beginning of the end of Daniel’s book. The visions here will lead into the images described in 11 and 12, giving priceless insights into God’s sovereignty, his control over all things throughout history, looking both back and forward. As you discuss this chapter, think back to times in your life when you were praying most desperately... and recall how God answered.

## Daniel Series Objectives:

Head: To understand the Book of Daniel.

Heart: To face hardship with courage.

Hands: To make choices that glorify God.

## Part 10: Hearing and Answering

Text: Daniel 10

Big Idea: God is actively hearing and answering our prayers on a global and eternal scale.

From the Sermon (add your own notes here):

1. **Alone and \_\_\_\_\_ (10:1-9)**
2. **Encouraged and \_\_\_\_\_ (10:10-14)**
3. **Strengthened and \_\_\_\_\_ (10:15-11:1)**

## Getting Started

1. What was Halloween like for you growing up? What did your family do this year for Halloween?
2. Where have you seen God answer a prayer of yours recently? Did you immediately know it was God answering your prayer or did you only see it hindsight?

3. What has been your previous experience or at least knowledge of fasting?

## **Digging Deeper**

What kind of encouragement can we take from the specific historical references the author gives us, with relation to the different kings and kingdoms? What does that say about the rest of scripture?

When have you prayed most desperately?

Sometimes God answers us a lot more subtly than a vision or an angel. What distractions keep us from noticing when God is answering our prayers?

When in your life have you felt strengthened by God?

Daniel is touched multiple times by God's messenger. What do you think is significant about the touch as opposed to simply being spoken to?

Find the comfort and joy in this chapter. What aspects of God's answer to Daniel are most meaningful to you?

### **Live It Out**

**Pray:** Daniel is praying beyond himself in this chapter... Who do you need to be praying for beyond your immediate circle?

**Confess:** Are there any times you are moving so fast you miss God's message? You miss what he is trying to say to you, or directions he may be leading you?

**Act:** Before the holidays begin, consider fasting. How might practicing fasting help you enjoy and celebrate God more in your feasting? *(This was the closing suggestion last week, and I want to leave it in as an intentional action point this week as well.)*