

# COMPROMISE CULTURE

## Week #2: The Babylon Mentality

*My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it.*

John 17:15-16 (NIV)

*Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves"...*

Genesis 11:4 (NIV)

*That is why it was called Babel—because there the LORD confused the language of the whole world. ...*

Genesis 11:9 (NIV)

*...Your wisdom and knowledge mislead you when you say to yourself, 'I am, and there is none besides me.'*

Isaiah 47:10 (NIV)

1. The Babylon Mentality elevates \_\_\_\_\_.

2. The Babylon Mentality lowers \_\_\_\_\_.

*King Nebuchadnezzar, To the nations and peoples of every language, who live in all the earth: May you prosper greatly! It is my pleasure to tell you about the miraculous signs and wonders that the Most High God has performed for me. How great are his signs, how mighty his wonders! His kingdom is an eternal kingdom; his dominion endures from generation to generation.*

Daniel 4:1-3 (NIV)

*The command to leave the stump of the tree with its roots means that your kingdom will be restored to you when you acknowledge that Heaven rules.*

Daniel 4:26 (NIV)

3. God always provides a \_\_\_\_\_.

*At the end of that time, I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven, and my sanity was restored. Then I praised the Most High; I honored and glorified him who lives forever. His dominion is an eternal dominion; his kingdom endures from generation to generation. All the peoples of the earth are regarded as nothing. He does as he pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth. No one can hold back his hand or say to him: "What have you done?" At the same time that my sanity was restored, my honor and splendor were returned to me for the glory of my kingdom. My advisers and nobles sought me out, and I was restored to my throne and became even greater than before. Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, because everything he does is right and all his ways are just. And those who walk in pride he is able to humble.*

Daniel 4:34-37 (NIV)

### • What will I do to stand strong and love well?

A. I will \_\_\_\_\_.

*I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever.*

Psalms 145:1 (NIV)

*What are you so puffed up about? What do you have that God hasn't given you? And if all you have is from God, why act... as though you have accomplished something on your own?*

1 Corinthians 4:7 (TLB)

B. I will \_\_\_\_\_.

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.*

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)

*Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up.*

James 4:10 (NIV)

### Recommended Resources

- *The Daniel Dilemma*, by Chris Hodges
- *Thriving in Babylon*, by Larry Osborne
- *Awake, Not Woke*, by Noelle Mering
- *Counter Culture*, by David Platt



## Compromise Culture Discover Bible Study

### Session 2 | Influencing Culture

#### Connect

In your small group, take 5 to 7 mins to connect.

- What are you thankful for this week? Where did you see God move in your life this week?
- Share what is causing you stress, worry, anxiety, or fear right now.
- This week's talk centered on the topic of influence. Looking at the various areas of your life, what are some of the characteristics people with the most influence embody or display? Feel free to note negative or positive characteristics that result in greater influence.

#### Opening Prayer

Have the facilitator pray for the study.

[Sample prayer: "God, thank you for inviting us into this community of faith to hear what your Spirit has to say as we study your Word. May we be attuned to the Holy Spirit that teaches and guides, and may we be empowered to follow through on such things as we might be invited to reflect on, or to do. May we be continually reformed into your image by your work in each of us. Amen."]

#### Read the Passage

Have someone read the following passages aloud.

Philippians 2:3–8 (NIV)

**3** Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, **4** not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. **5** In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: **6** Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; **7** rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. **8** And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross!



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James 4:6-10 (NIV)

**6** But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.” **7** Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. **8** Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. **9** Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. **10** Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

### Discover God’s Word | Reflection

- What in this text stood out to you?
- What do these passages tell us about God?
- What are some of the invitations or instructions shared in these passages?
- In your own words, what do you think it means to be humble before God?
- Why do you think humility matters so much to God?

### Moving Forward | Application

- Think of the people in your life who exhibit humility well. What does that humility look like in the context of everyday life? Feel free to give examples of real life situations or name specific habits you see this person exhibiting.
- In what ways is humility easy for you to practice and in what ways is humility hard for you to practice? Feel free to address humility in the context of your relationships and in context to your relationship with God.
- How can you specifically live out what you learned in this passage? What is one growth step you’d like to take?

### Closing Prayer

Have someone close in prayer.

[Sample prayer: *“Jesus, thank you for your word that graciously speaks truth to each of us. May we continue to abide in and obey your word. May we continually be reformed in your image not just for our own sake, but for the sake of others and the world. Amen.”*]