**Small Group Guide: Thriving in Babylon – Chapter 5**

*Ice Breaker Question*

Read chapter 5

Did anything stick out to you in the text or in the weekend message?

There is a clear change of tone in how the narrator, and even Daniel, speaks about and to the new king Belshazzar when compared with Nebuchadnezzar. How is this true?

Why is there a human propensity to distract ourselves from trouble ‘at the gate’ of our lives? And how does this tendency end up hurting us?

How is the sin of Belshazzar (Read verses 22-24) really just the sin shared by all humanity?

Belshazzar receives a word of judgment. We all should as well. Turn to John 8 and read the story of the woman caught in adultery.

In your own words and from this story, describe how God has spoken a ‘better word’ over our lives?

What does this mean for us in our struggle with guilt and shame?

(Partial hint for above question: why do we continually feel guilty? We feel guilty when we constantly remind ourselves of what we have done. We are delivered when we constantly remind ourselves of what He has done)