

Explore the Bible Extra!
Week of August 10, 2014
Tell It Like It Is
How can I warn others of God's judgment against sin?
Daniel 5:1-6,16-17,23c-28

In the News:

Several areas of the United States have endured several storms this summer. Many states have issued warnings and Maryland is no exception. All across Maryland, emergency personnel are enforcing the notion that when the storm approaches, take shelter. "These storms are dangerous. They are deadly but it seems people are not taking the warnings seriously," said Lt. Russ Davies. "Take the situation seriously because the storms have arrived with little warning although they were predicted."

This announcement came on the heels of the Maryland Natural Resource Police finding another missing boater dead after not heeding warnings. Two others were killed by lightning. "To have two people killed by lightning is extremely uncommon," said an official. With more storms approaching, officials can only hope people choose to stay inside and out of summer's weather wrath. Storms also left cars smashed by trees—a reminder of why staying inside as severe weather moves through is so critical. They say people need to use common sense when deciding to go out in these treacherous storms.

(To find more information about this story, search the Internet using the phrase "Maryland Emergency Officials Ask People To Heed Weather Warnings")

Get Started:

Briefly explain the story above. Ask: Why do some people not heed warnings?

Say: Warning others is fraught with risks. Some will view the person issuing the warning as judgmental or out of touch. They also run the risk of being misunderstood and ignored. Conversely, risks are involved if they fail to warn others.

Challenge the group to consider how Daniel's warnings involved risks for him and those he was warning.

Get to the Point:

Refer back to the news story. Ask: How can failing to warn people be more harmful than any scorn the person issuing the warning may receive? In what ways are we called to warn people today of God's judgment?

Lead adults to pray for boldness and courage to humbly and honestly warn others of God's judgment of sin.