# Lesson 3 Daniel 2Nebuchadnezzar’s Dream

1. (Faith) We frequently hear in the responsorial verse at Mass, the response, “If today you hear His voices, harden not your hearts.” We frequently hear the Word of God speaking to us through the Sacred Scripture, teachings of the Church, admonitions and advice from our clergy, the Holy Spirit prompting our consciences, and, occasionally, the voice of God speaking directly to our hearts. This latter is called a private revelation. Have you ever experienced what you believed was the Lord speaking to you directly through any of these or other means? Would you care to share your experience?

2. (Hope) Men like Daniel and his companions and the martyrs of the Church, considered it preferable to surrender this life for the hope of the Resurrection of God. (See 2 Maccabees 7:13-14). The Apostles, with the exception of St. John, although warned by Jesus of their fate for following Him, all endured a martyr’s death. How strong does one’s belief have to be in God’s Word to accept martyrdom?
Would they do so if they knew their faith was a fabricated lie?

2 Maccabees (7:13-14)

13 They tortured and maltreated the fourth brother in the same way.
14 When he was near death, he said, “It is my choice to die at the hands of mortals with the hope that
 God will restore me to life; but for you, there will be no resurrection to life.”

3. (Love) Daniel had the opportunity to advance in the king’s service at the expense of the king’s magicians and wise men, who would later attempt to destroy Daniel and his companions.
How does Daniel’s request to spare the lives of the king’s magicians and wise men demonstrate Our Lord’s commandments on how we are to treat our enemies?

Daniel 2:24

So Daniel went to Arioch, whom the king had appointed to destroy the wise men of Babylon, and said to him, “Do not put the wise men of Babylon to death.
Bring me before the king, and I will tell him the interpretation of the dream.”