

When finished with activities, return all necessary items to bag and place in the hallway for pick-up.

Program B-1

Friends in a Fiery Furnace

Daniel 3:1-30

Daniel Series: Lesson #3

Bible Verse: Do not make idols of any kind. Exodus 20:4 (NLT)
God gives wisdom to the wise. Daniel 2:21
God gives food to us. Psalm 136:25

Bible Story for children:

Focus on: We should not worship idols or other gods.
God cares for us when we need Him.

Prop ideas: Cloth bag (furnace), 4 dolls or blocks (Have one hidden in the bag, let children place the other three in the bag at the right time. Let them see all four in the bag, but only pull out three)
Use crepe paper or ribbon to “bind up” a child as you tell the story. Rip away the binding at the appropriate time.

SAMPLE STORY

King Nebuchadnezzar saw how wise Daniel and his friends were. He heard how Daniel gave credit to the **LORD** God for everything. But, the king still did a very foolish thing. He made a HUGE statue of gold, an image or idol to worship. It was 90 feet tall...that's 9 stories high! The king commanded that whenever special music was played (horns, flutes, zithers, lyres, harps and pipes) everyone was to stop what they were doing and fall down and worship this statue. Anyone who refused to do it would be thrown into the fiery furnace.

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego knew that if they bowed down to the idol, that they would be disobeying God. They knew God had said, “Do not make idols of any kind.” Exodus 20:4 (NLT) They refused to bow to the idol. This made some other people mad. They told the king about it. The king asked them, “Is it true that you will not worship the image of gold I have set up? If you refuse to do this, I will have you thrown into the fiery furnace.”

The men answered, “If we are thrown into the furnace, the God we serve is able to save us. But even if He does not, we want you to know, O king, we will never serve your gods of worship the golden image you have set up.” This made the king furious. He ordered the fire to be heated seven times hotter than normal. He commanded the three to be tied up and thrown into

the furnace. The fire was so hot that the soldiers who carried them to the furnace were killed by the flames.

The king looked into the furnace with amazement. He expected the men to burn up quickly and die. “Weren’t there only three men in the furnace? I see four...and they are all walking around. Their God really has saved them! Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out. Come here.”

They came out of the fire. Everyone crowded around them. The fire had not burned their bodies or hair. Their robes were not scorched. There was not even any smell of fire on them. King Nebuchadnezzar said, “Praise be to the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who has sent His angel and rescued His servants. They trusted Him. They were willing to give their lives rather than worship any god but their own God. I order that anyone who says anything bad about their God will be punished.”

The king then promoted them to higher positions in Babylon. Not only did God protect them for being obedient to Him, they were rewarded with better jobs in the kingdom. We should trust God to protect us when we follow Him as well.

FYI

Second Session Classes will be:

Parachute Game (Sheet)
Reading Books
Painting With a Golf Ball

FIERY FURNACE FOOD

Materials: Graham Crackers
Small Marshmallows
Tiny Cinnamon Candies
Aluminum Foil Squares
Fudge Sauce
Plastic Spoon

Do:

- Place a graham cracker on a large square of aluminum foil as the fiery furnace.
- Put three small marshmallows on the graham cracker to represent Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego.
- Drizzle fudge sauce over the marshmallows.
- Drop a few small cinnamon candies on top as flames.
- Fold and seal the edges around the cracker. Write each child’s names on the foil.

- Place the “fiery furnace” in a sunny spot for a few minutes or until the foil feels warm. (Skip this step if you have no windows, or take to another room if desired).
- Unwrap and eat.

Talk about: God watched over Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. He protected them and kept them from getting hurt in the furnace. When does God watch over you? They were thrown in the furnace for being obedient to God. How can you be obedient to God?

FIERY FURNACE

Materials: Red/yellow/orange Crepe Paper
Masking Tape (In room)

Do: Tape strips of crepe paper to the sides and underneath a small table. Let the children take turns going into the “fiery furnace.” You can even act out the Bible Story. Have guards push them in and then collapse (die). Have a fourth child go in to care for them. “King Nebuchadnezzar” calls them out.

Talk about: Tell bits of the Bible Story as they play in the furnace. Stress how the three men were willing to risk their lives rather than worship an idol. They were obeying one of God’s commandments.

FIERY FURNACE STORY BOOKLET

Teacher Extra: Bring glitter or sequin confetti to glue to the flames. Bring a shallow box to shake excess into and use for the next child. (Or shake over a trashcan).

Materials: Fiery Furnace Story Sheets (2 pages)
Bible Verse Stickers
Scissors (In room)
Stapler (In room)
Crayons/markers (In room)

Do: Give each child one set of story sheets. He can color before or after cutting apart. After cutting apart, assemble in order. (All pages but the title page have a number). Staple together. Add a Bible verse sticker.

Talk About: Read the booklet or tell in your own words; or, read the story from the Bible. Ask the children to retell the story in their own words as they follow the pictures.

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego refused to worship an idol. They were obeying one of God’s commandments:

Do not make idols of any kind. Exodus 20:4 (NLT)