



At-A-Glance: Ages 10-12  
Prophets & Promises Part 2: Elijah - Malachi  
Unit 9, Lesson 44

## Daniel's Friends and the Fiery Furnace

Lesson Aim: To show God is present and our faith is strengthened when we unite.

### THE WELCOME

**MEET & GREET:** Where is the hottest place you have ever been?

**GAME:** Musical Fiery Furnace

### THE WORSHIP THE GOD WHO IS LORD OF ALL

Read Worship Scripture: Isaiah 43:1-2.

Sing songs and worship God. Bless and collect the offering.

Perform The Love Sub script or read storybook.

### THE WORD GOD PROTECTS SHADRACH, MESHACH & ABEDNEGO

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: God gave Ezekiel the dry bones vision and promise of a new heart.

**Babylon's king, Nebuchadnezzar, made a 90-foot tall gold statue. Point to Ancient Babylon. Everyone had to worship it whenever music played, but Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (captives from Judah) refused. Point to Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (Circa 580 B.C.). Let's see what the king did. Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Daniel 3:12-29; 4:3. Find and Highlight Key Verse First: Daniel 3:28. Pray. Read.**

**READERS' THEATRE:** Let's act out our Bible passage.

### THE WAY THE PRESENCE OF GOD AND OTHER BELIEVERS

**How did the king pressure the three men to disobey God? (He threatened to throw them in a fire unless they worshiped an idol.) How can you tell the men were not sure God planned to save them? (They said even if God did not save them, they would not worship the king's idol.) Why do you think they refused to obey the king even though they knew the punishment was death? If you knew God might not rescue you, would you have refused to worship the king's idol? Have you ever been pressured to do something that was wrong in God's eyes? How does this story encourage you to obey God and put Him first? How does it encourage you that God will be with you even when obeying Him puts you in a difficult situation?**

**An idol is anything we treat as more important than God. What idols tempt us today? (Toys, games, grades, sports, money, goals, clothing, "good luck" charms, being accepted, etc.) How do you think being together gave Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego courage to obey God? Do you have a friend to help you put God first?**

**Let's gather in a circle. As each of you grasp a piece of this rope, name a way you can help each other stand strong when you feel pressured by others to focus on idols or to disobey God. Continue until all the children have answered and are holding the rope. This rope reminds us of the men who were tied up and thrown into the furnace. Just as this rope connects us to each other, believing in God keeps us connected. How can we help each other with the challenges of putting God first? Ask a child to lead a prayer asking God to provide everyone with friends who help them put God first.**

**What happened that proved the furnace was filled with fire? (The flames killed the soldiers who took the men to the furnace.) What law did the king order after this? (Anyone speaking against God would be punished by death.) How can your choices point others to God?**

### **CHRIST CONNECTION:**

**Who did the fourth man in the furnace look like to the king? (The son of a god.) Who do you think he was? Some say it was Jesus. Others say it was an angel. Either way, the Lord showed everyone He was with Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the fire. 600 years later, Jesus explained what happens when we come together as His followers. Reveal Matthew 18:20. Find It First. Highlight. Read.**

**How was the fiery furnace an example of Jesus' promise in Matthew 18:20? (They were there together in the name of God, and God was there in the fire with them.)**

**THE GOLDEN BOWL:** Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

### **FINAL FIVE MINUTES:**

- TREASURE TREAT: Piece of strong rope
- W<sup>3</sup> BETWEEN THE LINES Journal Entry #44
- OFFERING OF ART: Four men walking inside the fiery furnace
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

### **GOT TIME?**

**SNACK:** Fiery Furnace Snack

**GAME:** Idol Bowling

**CRAFT:** "God's Music" Wind Chimes

**BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES:** Praise Tag, Four Praise Corners

**BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW**