



Daniel's Friends and the Fiery Furnace

Daniel 2:44; 3:12-29; 4:3

Running time: Approximately 6 minutes

Setting: The Love Sub scripts (Lessons 35-52) will be set onboard a kaleidoscopic submarine in the late 1960's. The set is designed to look like the interior of an old submarine that also serves as a time travel device. There is a sliding board (the Time Tube) used for the entrance of visitors from the past and a ramp (or steps) to invite children up to participate in object lessons. There are two working portholes; the stage left porthole squirts water and the stage right porthole contains the Bible. Everything is painted in vibrant colors and has 1960's decor. For extra fun, build windows where characters and puppets can pop up unexpectedly.

Characters: Woodstock P. Havens is an inventor, explorer, and submarine pilot from the hippie era of the late 1960's. He is very "cool" and relaxed and he loves to study the prophets. Captain Drago, a fierce warrior from Planet Ephesus, has recently accepted Jesus. "Handsome" is a human hand (Actor's body is hidden except for his hand.) Handsome assists everyone by handing them props.

Plot: Captain Yago's brother Drago visits Woodstock and hears how Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego refused to bow to false gods and were thrown into a furnace. We learn that we must put God first and that when friends unite, God is present.

Costumes: Woodstock wears a tie-dyed shirt, wig, furry vest, glasses, and brightly colored pants and shoes. Drago wears a black tunic, helmet, gloves, and boots.

Props: Bible, light saber, artificial torch

Sound effects (SFX):

1. Intro/outro music suggestion: 1960's Surfer music
2. Porthole music suggestion: Song about God's power such as "Power in the Blood"
3. 3 dings: Microwave timer dings or bells
4. Submarine alarm sounds, bells
5. Warning siren
6. Choice bell
7. Promise fanfare
8. Fire crackling
9. Voiceover: Time Travel Alert

Visual effects (VFX):

1. Video Intro featuring animated submarine is available at ResourceWell.org.
2. Stage right porthole holds the Bible. When it opens, a light shines out and music plays.
3. Warning Lights: Red beacons
4. Warning Slide: ***In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever.***
Daniel 2:44
5. Choice Lights: Blinking stoplight
6. Choice Slide: ***They trusted in Him and defied the king's command and were willing to give up their lives rather than serve or worship any god except their own God. Daniel 3:28b***
7. Promise Lights: Flashing lights
8. Promise Slide: ***How great are His signs, how mighty His wonders! His kingdom is an eternal kingdom; His dominion endures from generation to generation. Daniel 4:3***
9. Flames slide and flickering orange lights

10. Fallback Slide: **No matter where you are in time, God is good all the time!**

Adaptations:

1. Sound Effects: instead of using recorded effects, have children make the sounds
2. Voiceovers: may be spoken off stage
3. This illustration is also available in storybook form located at ResourceWell.org

The Love Sub
Unit 9, Lesson 44
Daniel's Friends and the Fiery Furnace
Daniel 2:44, 3:12-29, 4:3

Video Intro: (available at ResourceWell.org) (VFX: Scientific images, SFX: Newsreel music) **Since the dawn of man, scientists have longed to travel through time! In the late 1960's a crack team of geniuses combined their talents to attempt to break the time barrier. In the Florida Keys, Dr. Woodstock P. Havens was given the task of building a special space shuttle— (SFX: Record scratch) Woodstock: Yeah, but I decided to make a submarine instead, man! (SFX: Intro music, VFX: Animated sub) So, come on and join me as we float through time. Climb aboard the Love Sub!**

Woodstock
What's happenin', dudes and dudettes? Man, time travel is such a trip! We've had people from the Bible and history and other planets sliding in and out! Things sure got out of hand! (SFX: 3 dings) (Handsome pops up.) Oh hey, Handsome. What's that? No, I wasn't calling you. I was saying things got out of hand. It's an expression. But, I'm glad you're here, man. (They hold hands.) I always feel better when I've got a godly friend to hold my hand.

Voiceover
Time Travel Alert! Time Travel Alert! We have a time travel visitor in 3-2-1! (SFX: Submarine alarm sounds, bells)

Woodstock
Whoa, I wasn't expecting company! How's it going, dude?

Drago (enters through slide)
Where am I? Where is this place?

Woodstock
You're onboard "The Love Sub," brother.

Drago
I am not your brother. I am Captain Drago!

Woodstock
Groovy, baby! Wait a minute! I've heard of you! Dr. Sominex said you used to come on board Skylab Omega all the time!

Drago
That was my brother, Captain Yago! I am Captain Drago from Planet Ephesus!

Woodstock
I'm Dr. Woodstock from Planet ... Earth!

Drago
Yes! You are the one Nofutu spoke of! You are familiar with God's power.

Woodstock
I'm familiar with His Power Source! Here, let me open it up. (Opens stage right porthole and removes Bible, SFX: Porthole music, VFX: Beam of light shines from porthole) Dude, here it is!

Drago (draws light saber)
Yah! Ephesians! Attack!

Woodstock
Whoa! Chill out! It's just God's Word.

Drago
Of course ... I knew that ... God's Word, the Bible. I should look there for my answers.

Woodstock
Well, if you've got questions, God's Word has the answers.

Drago

I need answers. I am new to the ways of God. The new king on my planet has put me in charge of the men but he does not know the God you and I serve.

Woodstock

Wow, sounds like you're in the same boat Daniel was in. He was the advisor to King Nebuchadnezzar.

Drago

Did he tell the king to put God first?

Woodstock

He did, man! Daniel knew God's kingdom was greater than every other kingdom! He said,

"In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever."

(SFX: Warning siren, VFX: Warning lights and slide)

Drago (draws light saber)

Aha! Surprise attack! Arm yourselves!

Woodstock

Relax! That was the warning God sent to the king.

Drago

Yes! I, too, want to warn my king that God must come first!

Woodstock

King Nebuchadnezzar got that warning, but unfortunately he had some evil advisors.

Drago

Oh, I hate evil men!

Woodstock

These evil men hated Daniel and his friends, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.

Drago

Their names were Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego? Wow! I thought Drago was a strange name.

Woodstock

They did have unusual names, but they loved God with all their hearts and they would never worship any other god or idol.

Drago

Of course not! No man of honor would bow down to a false god!

Woodstock

Yeah, but those evil dudes were not men of honor. They tricked the king into making a law that every person had to bow down and worship a golden statue of the king whenever the music played!

Drago

If I were Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, I would refuse to bow. (SFX: 3 dings) (Handsome pops up holding torch.) (SFX: Fire crackling) **Ah! Fire! Get back you evil hand!** (pokes at Handsome with light saber)

Woodstock

Whoa, dude! You've got to calm down! That's my friend, Handsome.

Drago

That flaming hand is your friend?!

Woodstock

He doesn't usually carry fire. He was showing us that the king's law said those who did not bow would be thrown into a hot, fiery furnace!

Drago

That would not feel good. What did they do?

Woodstock

They refused to bow.

Drago

Yes! I like those guys!

Woodstock

They told the king God would rescue them from the furnace, but even if He didn't, they would not serve the king's gods or worship his idol.

Drago

Yes! Hear that, king! What did Nebuchadnezzar say to that?

Woodstock

He threw them in the furnace.

Drago

I was afraid of that.

Woodstock (SFX: Fire crackling, VFX: Flames slide and flickering orange lights) **The king had the soldiers stoke up the fire as hot as it could go. But, when the king looked inside, he saw four men walking around and the fourth one looked like a son of the gods!**

Drago

Ha! The Lord rescued them!

Woodstock

Yes, and when they came out, the fire had not harmed them or their robes. King Nebuchadnezzar actually praised God for rescuing them. He respected the choice they had made. Check it out!

They trusted in Him and defied the king's command and were willing to give up their lives rather than serve or worship any god except their own God.
(SFX: Choice bell, VFX: Choice lights and slide)

Drago

What is this?

Woodstock

Those are the choice lights. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego made the right choice to stand together and trust the one true God!

Drago

And God was in the flames with them!

Woodstock

That's right. It's like Jesus said, "Where two or three come together in My name, there am I with them."

Drago

Yes! God promises to be there with us and He always keeps His promises! (SFX: Promise signal, VFX: Promise lights and slide)

Woodstock

Let's search for His promise right now! (looks up Daniel 4:3 in the Bible) **There it is!** (points to Daniel 4:3 and hands him the Bible) **Go ahead and read it, bro!**

Drago

How great are His signs, how mighty His wonders! His kingdom is an eternal kingdom; His dominion endures from generation to generation. God's kingdom will last forever!

Now, that's a promise! I, too, will tell my new king that God's kingdom must come first!

Woodstock

Dude, that king is lucky to have a godly friend like you.

Drago

And, I am honored to have met a godly friend like you. (SFX: 3 dings) (Handsome pops up.) **And like you, hand guy, for you have taught me that when friends unite together, God is with them. May I call you friends?**

Woodstock

Sure, dude! And, we can pray together that God changes the heart of your king, like he did for Nebuchadnezzar. Okay kids, until next time, "No matter where you are in time," say it with us, "God is good all the time!" (SFX: Intro/outro music, VFX: Fallback slide)

(exit)