



At-A-Glance: Ages 6-7
Prophets & Promises Part 2: Elijah - Malachi
Unit 9, Lesson 44

Daniel's Friends and the Fiery Furnace

Lesson Aim: To exemplify a life that puts God first.

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.

The king of Babylon, King Nebuchadnezzar, made a giant golden statue that was 90 feet high. Point to Ancient Babylon. **He ordered everyone to worship it whenever the music played. Many prophets had warned God's people not to worship idols. Some astrologers told the king that three captives from Judah named Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused to worship the idol.** 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. Pray. Read.

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

THE WAY PUTTING GOD FIRST

Why did the king order the three men to be tied up and thrown into the fire? (They refused to worship his golden idol.) **Even though they knew the punishment would be death, they refused to worship the idol. They knew God's Law was more important than the king's law. Does anyone know what the second commandment says about worshipping idols?** (Do not worship idols.) **Not worshipping idols means God wants you to treat Him as the most important one in your life. It means putting God first before any favorite activity, belonging, friendship, or even before yourself! It is a choice we make each day.**

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego loved God more than they loved their own lives. They trusted God could save them from the fire. But, even if he chose not to, they still would rather die than disobey God. If we ask, God will give us that kind of courage.

When the king called them out of the fire, what did he notice about their clothes and the ropes? (They were not burned at all!) **What did the king do when he saw this miracle?** (He praised the one true God!)

The king's idol was a golden statue. In our times, we have different types of idols. We are tempted to treat toys, games, collections, grades, sports, money, clothing, goals, "good luck" charms, or being popular as more important than God. Let's gather in a circle. As each of you grasp a part of this rope, name something you have been tempted to treat as more important than God. Continue until all the children have answered and are holding the rope.

Just as this rope connects us to each other, believing in God keeps us connected. Do you think being together might have helped Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego find the courage to put God first?

CHRIST CONNECTION:

How many men were thrown into the furnace? (Three.) **How many men did the king see walking around inside unharmed?** (Four.) **The king said the fourth man looked like the son of a god. Who do you think he was?** Some think it was Jesus. Some think 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. Read. **How did God show He was with the men in the fiery furnace?** (God sent someone to be with them. God kept them safe.)

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

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: Piece of strong rope
- DAILY WAY CHALLENGE
- 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