

EXILE

“The fiery furnace”

Series Objective:

Students will learn:

- The Story of the Fiery Furnace
- The Story of Daniel in the Lion’s Den
- The Story of Esther
- The Story of Nehemiah and the Walls

Series Theme Verse: “You are my God. Remember me because of the good things I’ve done. Be kind to me according to your great love.” – Nehemiah 13:22

Lesson Objective: For students to understand the story of the fiery furnace.

Lesson Passage: Daniel 3:1, 4-8, 12-30

Materials Needed: Bibles, Series Theme Verse on poster, Video of “Rack, Shack and Benny”, Construction Paper, colors

Lesson Plan:

Talking Points: Daniel 3:1, 4-8, 12-30

- Start by introducing the characters: King Nebuchadnezzar, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. Their story is in Daniel 1.
- What did King Nebuchadnezzar build? (An image of gold)
- How big was it? (9 feet wide and 90 feet tall)
 - You might show the kids how wide 9 ft. is and how tall 90 ft. is, it is about the height of the tower by 4th and Elm
- What was the rule about the statue of gold? (Whenever music was played, everyone must bow down and worship)
- Did everyone worship the statue when the music played? (No, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego did not because they only worshipped God)
- What was the punishment for anyone who did not worship the statue when the music was played? (They would be thrown into the fiery furnace and burned up)
- When King Nebuchadnezzar called Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego to see him and they told him they would not worship the image, only God, what did the king do? (Ordered the furnace to be made hotter and then the three men were thrown into the fire)
- Did Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego die in the fire? (No, the king saw them walking around in the fire with someone God had sent protecting them)
- What did the king do when he saw they were still alive and walking around? (He called them out of the fire and when he saw that they were not burned, he ordered

that everyone should worship the same God that Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego worshipped because that was the true God)

The Story Retold:

- Visual is sometimes the best: If you have a copy, the VeggieTales movie “Rack, Shack, and Benny” is great to show to retell the story. (33 mins)
- Another thing students can do while watching the movie is to draw a fire on construction paper and draw Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego walking around in the fire with the protector that God sent.

The Story and Me:

- Have the Series theme verse written on a poster or white board.
- Have the students read the verse together.
- Explain to students that each week we will see how God protected God’s people that trusted God.
- A teaser for the stories to come includes: Lions, A Woman Becomes a Queen and A Building some BIG walls!
- Say the verse in groups to begin repetition and memorization of the verse.
- If you haven’t done it before, some students might not know what the “13:22” means after Nehemiah. You can explain this to them, too.