

THE EXILE

“The fiery furnace”

Series Objective:

Students will learn:

- How Daniel and his friends lived for God in a foreign country

Series Theme Verse: “The Lord your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves.” –
Zephaniah 3:17

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, Construction Paper, colors

Lesson Plan:

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

- Remind students of the characters for this story that we met last week: King Nebuchadnezzar, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.
- 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:

- God Saves From the Fiery Furnace

- Give each student a dark colored piece of construction paper like brown or grey.
- In the center of the paper have them draw four human figures (Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego and the one God used to save them).
- Now have students cut red, orange and yellow strips of paper and tape or glue the strips of paper over the figures to create a “fire,” but making sure the “flames” can be pulled back to reveal the four figures.
- At the top of the paper, have students write “The Fiery Furnace” Daniel 3.
- They can use a dark crayon to draw lines forming the “bricks” of the fiery furnace wherever there is free space.
- Have a student or the students as a group retell the story using their furnaces.

The Story and Me:

- Have the Series theme verse written on a poster or white board.
- Have the students read the verse together.
- Ask students how God saved those who trusted in God in today’s story?
- Have students assign a motion for each word in the Series Theme Verse.
- Say the verse together using the motions.