

SHADRACH, MESCHACH, AND ABEDNEGO



Bible Reference: Daniel 3

Date: 1/4/26

Grade: PreK /Kindergarten

1st Service

Memory Verse:

"Do it all for the glory of God."

1 Corinthians 10:31

Big Picture Question:

How can we glorify God? We can glorify God by loving Him and obeying Him.

Christ Connection

- Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego only worshiped God. When we trust in Jesus, we worship only Him because He is the one true Savior.

Schedule

- Welcome/ Intro Activity.....5 minutes
 - Kindergarten in Large Group Lesson @ 9:20.....15-20 minutes
- Circle Time and Bible Story.....10 minutes
- Movement Activity.....10 minutes
- Craft.....5-7 minutes
- Music.....5 minutes
- Global Partner Feature.....5-7 minutes
- Prayer and Bible Verse.....10 minutes
- Snack/ Discussion Time.....5-7 minutes
- Group Game.....10 minutes
- Additional Activities.....As Needed

Notes and Reminders

Happy New Year! We are so grateful to have you as a part of our KidMin Shepherd team at LEFC! We pray that you will continue to see God move in the hearts and lives of the children in your class and in your own life this year!



SHEPHERD BIBLE STUDY

Daniel 3 contains one of the most powerful declarations in the Bible—a declaration so bold that it has inspired believers to stand firm in their faith, regardless of hardships or persecution. But before we get to that declaration, we must understand the situation in which it was given.

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego faced a seemingly impossible situation. King Nebuchadnezzar had set up a massive golden statue and invited everyone to join him in commemorating the event by bowing down and worshiping the idol. When the call went out to bow down, everyone obeyed the king's command except for Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. King Nebuchadnezzar was furious. He summoned the men and gave them a second chance to bow to the statue while reminding them that if they refused to bow, he would have them thrown into a fiery furnace where they would surely die.

Given the ultimatum, the three men declared, "If the God we serve exists, then he can rescue us from the furnace of blazing fire, and he can rescue us from the power of you, the king. But even if he does not rescue us, we want you as king to know that we will not serve your gods or worship the gold statue you set up" (Daniel 3:16-18). The boldest part of that statement comes in the second sentence, when they say, "even if he does not." They stood before this powerful king and declared that they would not bow regardless of what happened to them.

Ultimately, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were thrown into the fiery furnace where a mysterious fourth man walked with them. God rescued them from death, and His name was praised among the people. As we read the story of these three men, we see them refuse the temptation to bow down to anyone or anything other than the one true God. Encourage kids to be ready to stand firm in their faith like these three men and to remember that Jesus promises to be with those who trust in Him.

JUNIOR SHEPHERD HIGHLIGHT

Daniel 3 tells an amazing story about standing strong in faith. Before we look at the famous words spoken in this chapter, we need to understand what was happening.

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were in a very difficult situation. King Nebuchadnezzar built a huge gold statue and ordered everyone to bow down and worship it. When the signal was given, almost everyone obeyed. But Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused to bow.

The king became very angry. He called the three men to him and gave them another chance. He warned them that if they did not bow to the statue, they would be thrown into a blazing furnace and die.

The three men answered the king with courage. They said that God had the power to save them from the fire and from the king. But then they said something very important: even if God did not save them, they still would not worship the statue. They chose to obey God no matter what happened.

The king ordered them to be thrown into the furnace. While they were in the fire, a fourth man appeared and walked with them. God protected them, and they did not die. When the king saw this, he praised God.

This story shows us that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego trusted God completely. They refused to worship anything other than the one true God. We can learn from their example and be brave in our faith, remembering that Jesus promises to be with those who trust Him.

OUTLINE



Welcome and Intro Activity

5 minutes

Welcome the children and mark them as present on the attendance sheet on the clipboard by the door.

- Gather the children and explain they are going on a special hunt to find “fire colors”—red, orange, and yellow items. Show examples of those colors using items around the room or your own clothing. Instruct the kids to search the room and look for objects that match those colors. Encourage children to point to or touch the objects gently without picking them up. Repeat the activity for a few minutes or until everyone has had a chance to find something.
- **SAY** We found so many red, orange, and yellow things in our room. These colors remind me of the different colors we see in fire. In today’s Bible story, we will learn how God protected Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in a fire when they chose to worship God.

Circle Time and Bible Story

10 minutes

Thinking Activity

- Pretend like you and the kids are riding in a car, then riding bikes, and then swimming at a pool. Talk about what you need to protect yourself in each situation.
- **SAY** What do we need to protect us when we ride in a car? [Allow responses.] That’s right, each of you need your car seat, and we all need a seatbelt. What about if we are riding bikes? What do we need to protect us then? [Allow responses.] Yes, we need helmets for protection when we ride bikes. Okay, now let’s pretend we are at the pool. What do we need to protect our skin? [Allow responses.] Yes! Sunscreen. We need protection in all these situations, and these items help keep us safe. In today’s Bible story, three men named Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego needed protection from a fire. Let’s open the Bible to learn more!

Bible Story

- King Nebuchadnezzar took some young men from Judah to be his servants. Three of them were named Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. One day, the king made a big gold statue and told everyone that whenever they heard music, they had to bow down and worship the statue. If they didn’t, they would be thrown into a hot, fiery furnace. When the music played, everyone bowed down to the statue—except for Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. They knew they should only worship God. Some people saw that the friends didn’t bow down, and they reported this to the king. The king was very angry and said, “If you don’t bow down, I will throw you into the fiery furnace. What god can save you then?” But Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego said, “Our God can save us from the fire; but even if he doesn’t, we won’t worship your statue.” The king was so mad that he made the furnace extra hot and had them thrown in. The fire was so hot it killed the soldiers who threw them in. But then the king saw something amazing! He said, “Didn’t we throw three men into the fire?”





- But I see four men walking around, and one of them looks like a son of the gods!” The king called the friends out of the fire, and they weren’t hurt at all—not even their clothes were burned! The king was amazed and said, “Praise the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego! No other god can save like He does.”

Christ Connection

- Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego only worshiped God. When we trust in Jesus, we worship only Him because He is the one true Savior.

Review Activity

- Place some blocks on the floor and encourage the children to sit around them. Ask questions from the story. Each time a child answers a question correctly, guide that child to add a block to a wall of protection. Ask questions such as 1.What did King Nebuchadnezzar make and tell people to worship? 2.Where would people be thrown if they did not worship the statue? 3.Who refused to worship the statue King Nebuchadnezzar made? 4.What happened when Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused to worship the statue? 5.What happened when Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were thrown in the fiery furnace? 6.What did King Nebuchadnezzar say at the end of the story?
- SAY In today’s Bible story, God protected Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego when they chose to worship Him. When we trust in Jesus, we worship only Him because He is the one true Savior.

Movement Activity

10 minutes

Invite children to stand in the middle of the room. Tell the children you will say an item, and they will decide if that item is hot or cold. If the item is cold, they will pretend to shiver. If the item is hot, they will pretend to fan themselves. Some items to include are:

- Cold: ice cream, a freezer, snow, ice, a popsicle, a juice box from the refrigerator
- Hot: soup, an oven, a campfire, a grill, hot chocolate, and a fiery furnace.

SAY Where did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego get thrown when they said they would not worship the statue? (fiery furnace) Was the furnace hot or cold? [Allow responses.] Yes, it was so hot! But did it hurt Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego? [Allow responses.] They weren’t hurt at all—not even their clothes were burned! God protected Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. The king was amazed and said, ‘Praise the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego! No other god can save like He does.’ We can also praise God and give Him all the glory. What can you praise God for today? [Allow responses.]





Craft

5-7 minutes

Distribute a flame craft sheet to each child. Place glue sticks and small squares of red, orange, and yellow tissue paper on each table. Explain to children that they will be making 3D flames. Show them how to wrap a square of tissue paper around their index finger and press it onto their page. Then encourage children to spread glue around the inside area of the flame and begin attaching the tissue paper into 3D flames.

SAY I really like your fire pictures. King Nebuchadnezzar was so angry that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego would not bow down to his statue that he ordered the furnace to be made seven times hotter. The king threw them in, but God protected Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. The fire didn't hurt them. God is stronger than fire. God's Son, Jesus, is also stronger than death. Jesus died on the cross and rose again to save people from their sin.



Music

5 minutes

You will find music and other video resources on the USB which is already plugged into the TV. Feel free to play the videos in any order you like! You may distribute the Activity Page for the children to complete at this time, if they would prefer to sit and listen to the music.

Friends From Afar

5-7 minutes

You will find today's activity for Friends from Afar in the Binder on the counter. The information for this month's Global Partner family and an activity to learn about where they are serving are included. Necessary supplies are located in your bin.





Prayer and Bible Verse

10 minutes

Prayer (Use these words, or your own, to pray about today's Bible lesson. Take time to listen to prayer requests from the children and pray for them as well!)

- God, thank You for Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and their example of only worshiping You. Help us glorify You by loving and obeying You. Teach us to trust in Jesus and worship Him as the one true Savior. Amen

Bible Verse

- Read the key passage aloud. Encourage the children to stand up and do the following motions as they say the key passage. "Do" (touch feet); "everything" (touch knees); "for" (hands on hips); "the" (touch shoulders); "glory" (touch head); "of God" (put hands in the air). Repeat the movements several times.
- **SAY** Our key passage reminds us that God wants us to do everything for His glory. In today's story, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego glorified God by loving and obeying Him. We can glorify God by loving and obeying Him too!

Snack and Discussion Time

5-7 minutes

Have children sanitize their hands before passing out snacks and cups of water. During this time, you can connect with children and discuss questions regarding the lesson.

1. What did you like about the Bible story? (Answers will vary.)
2. What were some things in the Bible story that made you happy or sad? (Answers will vary.)
3. What did King Nebuchadnezzar do to Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego when they did not worship the statue? (Had them thrown in the furnace)
4. Why didn't Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego worship the statue? (Because God said only to worship Him.)
5. How did God help Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego when they were in the furnace? (He protected them from getting hurt.)
6. How can we glorify God? We can glorify God by loving Him and obeying Him.

SAY Nebuchadnezzar told everyone to bow down and worship his special statue or they would be thrown into a fiery furnace. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused to bow down because they only worshiped the one true God. Nebuchadnezzar was very angry and threw them into the furnace, but God protected Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. King Nebuchadnezzar called for them to come out. He told everyone to worship God because no one saves like God.





Group Game

10 minutes

- Place a plastic cup in the center of a large area and guide the children to make a circle around it. Pick one child to be the protector of the cup by guarding it. Demonstrate how to safely roll a soft foam ball and try to knock down the cup. Guide each child to take a turn rolling the ball to try to knock down the cup. Allow each child to have a turn to be the protector of the cup.
- **SAY** You used your hands and body to protect the cup from the ball. Who protected Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego? [Allow responses.] Yes, God protected Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. God deserves all our worship. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego only worshiped God. When we trust in Jesus, we worship only Him because He is the one true Savior

Additional Activities

As Needed

Guess How many

- In your Bin will be several bags filled with various items. Each will have either 3 or 4 of one type of item. Tape the number 3 and the number 4 on opposite sides of the room. Show the children one of the bags. Hold it up for a few seconds and then lead children to guess if three or four things are in the bag. Lead them to show their answer by standing beside the number 3 sign or the number 4 sign. Open the bag and count the items aloud. Repeat with the remaining bags.
- **SAY** You did a great job guessing how many things were in the bags! In our Bible story, King Nebuchadnezzar put three men into the fiery furnace because they would not bow down to his statue. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego chose to worship God. When the king looked inside the furnace, he saw four people. The fourth man looked very special. God protected Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego from the fire.

Pass the Fire

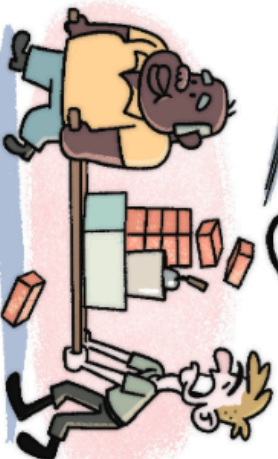
- Invite children to sit in a circle. Crumple a piece of orange construction paper into a ball. Invite children to pretend that the paper ball is a ball of fire. Pass the ball around the circle as you play music. Stop the music and invite the child with the ball to stand up and share something about themselves, like a favorite food, color, or animal.
- **SAY** It is always fun to learn more about our friends! The friends in today's Bible story decided to worship only God, and the king threw them in the fire, but God protected Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. How can we be good friends by pointing each other to God? [Allow responses.]





Protect Each Person

INSTRUCTIONS: God protected Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Draw a line to match each person to what they need to protect them.



NAME: _____



the **GOSPEL** PROJECT



Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego

Daniel 3

STORY POINT:

God protected Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego only worshiped God. When we trust in Jesus, we worship only Him because He is the one true Savior.

KEY PASSAGE:

1 Corinthians 10:31

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

How can we glorify God? We can glorify God by loving Him and obeying Him.



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