Large Group Leader:

Time	What to Do	Materials
10 minutes	Set up Computer with songs on Youtube, google slides powerpoint for today	
3 minutes	Start timer. Invite classes to join	Timer video
2 minutes	Welcome kids Collect the offering: Fill the Barnyard!	Offering bag
	Birthdays: Harper Gauthier, Eden Vanlaar	
2 minutes	Call to Worship: Good morning, everyone! Today we are going to hear about three men named Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. A king told them to bow down and worship a giant golden statue, but they refused because they knew there was only one true God! Leader: Sometimes following Jesus isn't easy. We might feel afraid or pressured to do what everyone else is doing. But just like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, we can trust God because He is always with us! Leader: Who is the one true God? Kids: The God of the Bible! Leader: Who can we trust when we are afraid? Kids: We can always trust God! Leader: Let's worship our amazing God together! He is powerful, He is faithful, and He is always with His people! Everyone: Let's worship God!	

10 minutes singing	New Christmas Song!!! O come O come Emmanuel and Sing we the Song of Emmanuel Stop after the first verse of Sing we the Song of Emmanuel	Video
	Trust and Obey	
3 minutes	Watch the video of the story	powerpoint
	Questions to ask: 1. What did the three men say when King Nebuchadnezzar threatened to throw them into the fire? 2. How did King Nebuchadnezzar describe the fourth man? 3.	
	Questions from kids video: No kids video this week.	Video
2 minutes	God, thank You for showing Your great power to save through the lives of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. As we seek to worship You alone, give us the courage to obey Your Word in all circumstances. Amen.	
1 minute	Do the blessing with them: May the Lord Bless You and Keep you. May he make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord show you His favour and give you peace."	

LEARN the Bible Story

1 TELL THE BIBLE STORY: VIDEO OR STORYTELLER (10 minutes)

Open your Bible to Daniel 3. Use the Bible storytelling tips to help you tell the story, or show the Bible story video "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego." Use the bold text to retell or review the story.

SHADRACH, MESHACH, AND ABEDNEGO

When King Nebuchadnezzar defeated God's people, he brought back young men from Judah to be his servants. **Daniel, Shadrach (SHAD rak), Meshach (MEE shak), and Abednego (uh BED-nih goh) were some of the young men who were captured and brought to Babylon.**

One day, **King Nebuchadnezzar set up a large gold statue and invited everyone to a special dedication ceremony. A messenger of the king proclaimed,** *"People of every nation and language, you are commanded:* **whenever you hear music, you are to fall facedown and worship this gold statue** *that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up.* **Whoever does not fall down and worship the statue will immediately be thrown into a furnace of blazing fire."**

When the music played, everyone fell down and worshiped. *Everyone, that is,* **except for Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. They knew they were commanded by God to worship Him alone.**

Some *of the* **people of Babylon knew that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego did not worship the golden statue. They told King Nebuchadnezzar,** *and he became very angry. He gave orders to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego to him.*

When Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego came before the king, the king said, *"If you do not obey my command when the music plays,* **I will immediately throw you into a furnace of blazing fire. What god can rescue you from that?" Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego replied,** *"King Nebuchadnezzar,* **the God we serve can rescue us from the furnace of blazing fire and from your power. But even if he does not rescue us, we want you to know that we will not serve your gods or worship the gold statue you set up."**

Nebuchadnezzar *was filled with rage. He* **made the furnace seven times hotter** *than usual* **and had Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego tied up and thrown in the furnace.** *The flames were so hot, the men who carried Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego up to the furnace died from the heat.*

Suddenly, King Nebuchadnezzar jumped up, surprised. *"Didn't we throw three bound men into the fire? Then* **why do I see four men, not tied up, walking around in the fire unharmed? The fourth man looks like a son of the gods!"**

He called Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego *servants of the Most High God and*

STORYTELLING TIPS

Use dramatic voice: Help kids distinguish between King Nebuchadnezzar and Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego by altering the tone in your voice as you read spoken words in the story.

Display pictures: Find and display pictures of some famous statues. Explain that statues often are designed to look like certain people or animals. Remind kids that worshiping anything other than God is disobedience because only He is worthy of worship.

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told them **to come out. Not a hair of their heads was burned, and there was no smell of fire on them.**

Nebuchadnezzar exclaimed, "Praise to the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego! He sent his angel and rescued his servants. I issue a new decree: anyone who says anything bad about their God will be punished, **for there is no other god who can save like theirs."**

Christ Connection: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused to bow down to anything but God. When we trust in Jesus and God brings us from death to life, we turn away from worshiping anything else. Jesus is Savior and Lord over our lives."

2 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

SAY "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego had been captured and brought to Babylon to serve King Nebuchadnezzar. The king ordered all the people to bow down and worship the golden statue. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego knew worshiping anything other than God was wrong. What did the three men say when King Nebuchadnezzar threatened to throw them into the fire? **[Allow responses.]** Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego placed their faith in God rather than in King Nebuchadnezzar. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego told the king that their God could protect them, but even if He chose not to, they would not bow down. Like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, we are called to place our trust in God, regardless of our circumstances or feelings. God is worthy of our full love and obedience no matter what.

After Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were thrown in the furnace, Nebuchadnezzar saw a fourth man in the fire. How did King Nebuchadnezzar describe the fourth man? **[Allow responses.]** The king saw someone who looked like a son of the gods walking in the fire with the three men! God allowed them to be throw into the fire, but He was protecting them. **SHADRACH, MESHACH, AND ABEDNEGO REFUSED TO WORSHIP THE GOLD STATUE, AND GOD RESCUED THEM**. Through faith in Jesus, we can trust that God will be with us, and we will be saved from sin and eternal death."

3 GOSPEL DISCUSSION

SAY "While we might not face a fiery furnace, God has made the way to save us from something much greater. We all face the punishment for sin: eternal death. But in His love, God sent Jesus to take our punishment. Because of Jesus' death and resurrection, those who place their trust in Jesus are rescued from eternal punishment."

(Tip: Use Scripture and the Gospel Plan Poster to explain how to become a Christian. Create an environment where kids are welcome to ask questions about what it means to follow Jesus.)

4 QUESTIONS FROM KIDS (3 minutes)

Show the "Unit 16, Session 2" Questions from Kids video. Prompt kids to discuss:

1. Where do we go if we do not believe in God when we die?
2. Have you trusted in Jesus? Will you be with God in heaven?

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5 MISSIONS MOMENT (3 minutes)

Display an Allergy Alert Poster and the "Manchester Photos" printable. Tell kids that Manchester, England, is a large city with many museums, parks, and a well-known soccer team. Discuss how many people in England enjoy drinking tea and often have afternoon tea, where they eat scones, sandwiches, or other snacks. Distribute a tea bag to each kid, allowing him or her to smell the tea.

> **SAY** *When Dan and Tara Byrd moved to Manchester, England, they learned how to drive on the left side of the road, how to use a different kind of electrical plug, and how the English have traditions like afternoon tea. But the Byrds also learned that Manchester has many people who do not know Jesus. The Byrds desire to find ways to share the gospel with the people of Manchester so they can know the one true God and His Son, Jesus. The Byrds are partnering with churches in England so they can help them start new churches. As more churches begin in different areas, more people in Manchester can have greater opportunities to hear the gospel.*

Pray for the work of Dan and Tara Byrd and the churches in England as they start new churches. Pray many people in Manchester will hear the gospel and trust in Jesus.

6 KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Before the session, print the key passage onto a sheet of cardstock. Draw lines across the paper to create a puzzle pattern, making a puzzle piece for each kid. Cut out the pieces. Show the Key Passage Poster. Lead kids in reading aloud 1 Corinthians 10:31 together.

> **SAY** *Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego glorified God through their obedience to worship only Him. Our key passage reminds us that we are also called to glorify God in all that we do.*

Distribute a puzzle piece to each kid. Encourage the kids to work as a team to put the key passage puzzle together. Once the puzzle is complete, check it over and invite kids to recite the key passage aloud.

Lead kids to sing "For the Glory of God (1 Corinthians 10:31)." You may also choose to sing a worship song of your choice.

7 PRAY (2 minutes)

Invite kids to pray before transitioning to Love.

> **SAY** *God, thank You for showing Your great power to save through the lives of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. As we seek to worship You alone, give us the courage to obey Your Word in all circumstances. Amen.*

Transition from **LEARN** to **LOVE**

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