

SHADRACH, MESHACH, AND ABEDNEGO

DANIEL 3



CHRIST CONNECTION: When we trust in Jesus, we worship only Him. He is the one true God.

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: Do everything for the glory of God. 1 Corinthians 10:31

BABIES GOSPEL GEMS

- King Nebuchadnezzar made a big, gold statue for people to worship when they heard music.
- Three friends did not worship the statue. They knew they should only worship God.
- God protected the three friends from the fire, and the king praised the one true God.

BIBLE STORY FOR TODDLERS: King Nebuchadnezzar took Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego to work for him. One day, the king made a big, gold statue for people to worship when they heard music. If they did not, the king would throw them in a fiery furnace. But Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego did not worship the statue. They knew they should only worship God. The king got angry and threw them in the furnace. Then the king saw four men walking around in the fire! When the king called the friends out of the fire, they were not hurt at all—not even their clothes were burned! The king said, “Praise God! No other god can save like He does!”



LEARNING Activities

Engage babies in the following activities during the session. In each activity, provide handheld Bibles for babies to handle. Open a Bible to Daniel 3. Show the Bible Story Picture Poster as you say the gospel gems in a soothing voice. Read the Key Passage Phrase Card. Pray for the babies.

1 SING A SONG

Sing to the tune of “Skip to My Lou”:

“Do, do everything.
Do, do everything.
Do, do everything.
Do everything for the glory of God.”

SAY “ Our key passage phrase says, ‘Do everything for the glory of God.’ When we trust in Jesus, we worship only Him. He is the one true God. ”

2 PAINT THE MUSIC

Print “Music Staff” printable on heavyweight paper, one per baby. Sit babies at a table or in high chairs. Provide a painting smock for each baby, and squirt a dollop of washable paint onto a paper plate. Then dip each baby’s finger in the paint and press them on the staff above each word. Beside the fingerprints, draw a stem, either up or down, completing the music note shape. Read the gospel gems as you help the babies paint. If desired, help babies stick colorful circle stickers to the music notes instead of using paint.

SAY “ Three friends did not worship the statue the king told them to. The friends knew they should only worship God. Who kept the friends safe? Yes, God! God protected the three friends. ”

3 WIGGLE AND WORSHIP

Sit babies in leaders’ laps or in horseshoe-shaped pillows. Play upbeat worship music on an electronic device. Provide toy instruments or toy utensils and pots and pans. Use silk scarves in fire colors to move over the babies as they move to the music. Read the gospel gems as babies move to the music.

SAY “ Who did the friends worship? Yes, the three friends only worshiped God. God protected the three friends from the fire, and the king praised the one true God. ”

Check diapers, serve bottles if needed, and release babies to parents according to your church’s security guidelines. Give parents today’s Big Picture Card. Repeat the Christ Connection, gospel gems, and Bible-learning activities for babies who stay a second hour.



LEARNING Activities

Engage toddlers in the following activities. In each activity, show the Bible Story Picture Poster as you review the Bible story. Provide small Bibles for toddlers to handle.

1 CIRCLE TIME

Open your Bible to Daniel 3. Show the Bible Story Picture Poster as you tell the provided toddlers' Bible story. Read the Key Passage Phrase Card and guide toddlers to say it. Pray for the toddlers.

2 THREE FRIENDS CRAFT

Print the “Three Friends Craft” printable (one per toddler). Allow toddlers to use crayons to color and decorate the three friends as you review the Bible story. When finished, fold the papers along the fold line and crease. Cut out the shape to reveal a chain of three people. Glue the three figures on construction paper. Ball up small tissue paper pieces of red, orange, and yellow, and glue around the three figures.

SAY “ Who saved three friends from the fire? Yes! God saved three friends from the fire. They were not hurt—not even their clothes were burned! The king praised God as the one true God. ”

3 KEEP US SAFE

Gather books from around the room (one per toddler). Allow toddlers to look in the books for images of things that keep us safe. Images may include a fire truck, a police officer, a doctor, a car seat, and so forth. When a toddler finds an image, hold up the book for all to see. Talk with the toddlers about how this person or thing helps keep us safe. Review the Bible story as the toddlers play.

SAY “ Who keeps us safe? Yes, God! When we trust in Jesus, we worship only Him. He is the one true God. God keeps us safe! ”

4 SHAPE THE BIBLE STORY

Provide play dough in various colors. Read the Bible story, and invite the toddlers to make three people shapes, a fire, or even a crown for a king with their play dough. Explore and explain each item and how it relates to the Bible story.

SAY “ Who made a golden statue for the people to worship? Yes, the king did! The three friends knew that they were to worship only God! God protected the three friends from the fire. When we trust in Jesus, we worship only Him. He is the one true God. ”

5 SING A SONG

Sing “My God Is So Big.” If you are unfamiliar with the song, look it up online beforehand. Invite toddlers to sing the song loud (strong) or soft (weak), and fast or slow while moving to the song.

SAY “ Is God strong enough to keep us safe? Yes! God kept the three friends safe from the fire! In fact, they were not hurt at all! The king said, ‘Praise God! No other god can save like He does!’ ”

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1 TRANSITION ACTIVITY: CHEER ON THE FRIENDS

Pat twice as you say, “God saved.” Clap twice as you say, “Three friends.” Then use your fingers to show numbers as you say, “1, 2, 3!” Repeat the pat-clap pattern and then say, “Who does God love? God loves you and me!” On “God loves you and me,” point to the toddlers. Retell the Bible story.

SAY “Who does God love? Yes, God loves you and me! God saved three friends, and He will keep us safe too. He is the one true God!”

2 SING THE SCRIPTURE

Sing to the tune of “Skip to My Lou”:

“Do, do everything.
Do, do everything.
Do, do everything.
Do everything for the glory of God.”

SAY “When we sing, do we bring glory to God? Yes! When we sing, we worship God. We are to worship God only! Everything we do should point others to God!”

3 MAKE A “PRAISE GOD!” POSTER

Write Praise God! in block letters on a large piece of paper. Tape the paper to the wall. Invite toddlers to use crayons to color in the letters. Retell the Bible story as the toddlers color.

SAY “When we trust in Jesus, we worship only Him. He is the one true God. The friends trusted God and only worshiped God. God kept them safe from the fire! Even the king said, ‘Praise God! No other god can save like He does!’”

4 HOP OVER THE HEAT

Tape red, yellow, and orange construction papers to the floor, scattered around the room. Invite the children to hop over the papers, being careful not to hop on the “heat.” Challenge three toddlers to hold hands as they hop over the heat. Allow all toddlers to have a turn. Then choose four toddlers to hold hands and hop over the heat. Cheer on the friends as they hop. Review the Bible story.

SAY “In our Bible story, how many friends went in the fire? Yes, three! But how many friends did the king see in the fire? Yes, four! God protected the friends, and He keeps us safe too!”

Check diapers, serve a snack if needed, and release toddlers to parents according to your church’s security procedures. Give parents today’s Big Picture Card to reinforce today’s Bible story, Christ Connection, and gospel gems throughout the week.