

## Taking a Stand for God



MEMORY VERSE: "If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God whom we serve is able to save us... But even if He doesn't... we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up."

Daniel 3:17-18

### DAY 1 DANIEL 3:1-18 — Nebuchadnezzar's Gold Statue

1. Read verses 1-7. What did King Nebuchadnezzar build? What command was given to the people when the music sounded? Who bowed down and worshiped the statue?
2. Read verses 8-15. What did the king say to Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego?
3. How did these young men answer the king? vv. 16-18
4. Read Exodus 20:3-5. What do you think of their answer?
5. When you face peer pressure, where will you find the courage to stand?  
Refer to Joshua 1:9, Isaiah 41:10, Ephesians 6:10.

### DAY 2 DANIEL 3:19-30 — Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the Fire

6. What did the king order? What does the king see? vv. 19-25

7. Sometimes we are aware of Jesus' presence in our trials and sometimes we are not – but He is there nonetheless. How might this change your attitude and perspective of trials?
  
8. What do you learn about Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego? vv. 26-27
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. What did the king say? What did the king decree? What happened to Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego? vv. 28-30
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. What did God accomplish through this event? (for Himself, the king, the Jews, YOU)

**DAY 3** DANIEL 4:1-17 — Nebuchadnezzar's Dream of a Tree

11. What was King Nebuchadnezzar's message to all people? vv. 1-3
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
12. Read verses 4-16. After his wise men could not interpret another dream, the king tells his dream to Daniel. How did the tree in the king's dream provide for the world? vv. 10-12 What did the messenger say would happen to the tree after it was cut down? vv. 13-16
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
13. Why does the king have this dream? vv. 17

**DAY 4****DANIEL 4:18-37 — Daniel Interprets the Dream**

14. Read verses 18-27. What does Daniel tell the king? What does the dream mean? vv. 22, 25, 26

15. Read verses 28-36. What does the king do and say after the seven periods of time had passed? What did God restore to Nebuchadnezzar?

16. What is God able to do? v. 37

**DAY 5****DANIEL 3-4 — Wrap Up**

17. How does the world see suffering? How do you think God sees suffering?

18. What do you find yourself taking pride in? What would it look like to use the attention from that success to point others to Jesus?

**TAKE AWAY**

Remember God's power every day! Write down the amazing things God has done for you. Keep it in your Bible!

**BLESSING**

There's no need to be fearful, for God will be with you through the fiery trials of life. And when the trial is over, you'll come out stronger and closer to Jesus.

## Taking a Stand for God

God has promised to be with us when life is hard, but often our hearts struggle to believe it. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego didn't know they'd find Jesus in the fire when they walked in the furnace. As a result of their faith, the king acknowledged God's power, and people stood in awe. They allowed their faith, not their fear, to guide their actions.

Our faith might lead to suffering. Are you in a situation where you feel like you're choosing between God and others?  
It's easy to read Nebuchadnezzar's story

and assume it could never happen to us. But no one is immune to pride. Pride is an attitude of independence from God. The truth is nothing we have and nothing we build is ours - it is all from God.

When God brings pride to our attention, it's not to shame us but to save us. How much heartache could we miss if we were to listen and repent?

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