

A Fiery Furnace Daniel 3

Today's lesson is about a king named Nebuchadnezzar and three men with funny-sounding names of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.

King Nebuchadnezzar's army had defeated the Israelites. Now he was their ruler. King Nebuchadnezzar built a golden statue. Then he made a bad law. It said, "When the music plays, everyone must bow down and worship the statue. Those who disobey will be thrown into the fiery furnace."

The music began to play. The people fell down and worshiped the statue. But Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused. "We only worship the true God," they said. The king was mad!

The king said, "Make the furnace extra hot!" He had the three men thrown inside. Yet, when the king looked into the furnace, there were four men walking around! One of them looked like an angel from God.

The king shouted to the men, "Come out! Your God has saved you!" The fire had not hurt them. They did not even smell like smoke! He said to all the people, "Praise to the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. No other god can save people this way and the king made them rulers in his kingdom.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

Discussion questions:

1. What did the king command the people to do when they heard the music?
2. Why didn't Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego do what the king commanded?
3. The king became very angry. What did the king do with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego?
4. The king had three young men thrown into the fire, how many people did he see walking around in the fire?
5. When Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego came out of the fire, were their bodies burned or did their clothes smell like smoke?
6. What did the king do when he saw that God had rescued the young men?

Activity ideas:

HOW TALL WAS THE KING'S STATUE

A fun activity to help help younger children understand how tall King Nebuchadnezzar's golden statue was.

MATERIALS:

Activity page for each child
Pencils

PREPARATION:

Before class print an activity page for each child.

WHAT YOU WILL DO:

Give one activity page to each child. Have the children count how many people it would take to be ninety feet tall and record their answers on the activity page. Repeat the process for the giraffes. Finally have the children color the statue either yellow or gold.



Activity Page



Craft ideas:

SHADRACH, MESHACH AND ABEDNEGO

God's angel protects Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the fiery furnace.



MATERIALS:

Cylinder & Flame graphics [\[PDF BELOW\]](#)

Child safe scissors

Transparent tape

PREPARATION:

Before class, print copies of the cylinder and flame graphics so you will have one set for each child. You may also want to complete one craft before class to show the children.

WHAT YOU WILL DO:

Give each child the pictures of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, with and without the angel, and the pictures of flames. Using child safe scissors, have the children cut along the black borders of the page containing Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Next have the children cut along the black border of the page containing Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego with the Angel.

Children will roll the graphic of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego into a long cylinder shape and use transparent tape to secure the slightly overlapping paper edges together. The same process should be followed to create the cylinder of Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego and the Angel. Please note that the circumference of the angel cylinder should be large enough to easily slip over the cylinder of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego when finished.

Have the children cut out the flame graphics, including the rectangle beneath the flames. The rectangle will be folded at the edge of the flame, which will allow the flame to stand upright. (see example.)

WHAT YOU WILL SAY:

Explain that fire is very dangerous and not something to be played with. In our story today God supernaturally protected Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego from the flames of the king's furnace, if not for God's protection the young men would have died.

FINISHED CRAFT EXAMPLES:

Finished example of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego cylinder and flames.

Graphic is cut out and made into a cylinder shape using tape.



Size comparison between the two finished cylinders.

Note that the circumference of the angel cylinder is large enough to easily slip over the cylinder of Shadrach Meshach and Abednego.



Finished craft with the angel cylinder placed over the cylinder of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.









Coloring Page:

God Sends Protection
Daniel 3:25-28

