

GRADES  
K-6

# FIERY FURNACE

Printable Lesson Kit



**M** **GHTY MESSAGES**



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# FIERY FURNACE

## LESSON OVERVIEW



### FIERY FURNACE MIGHTY MESSAGES

This Lesson from Daniel 3 and the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego is both scary and inspiring of peace and joy. The three Israelites were thrown into a fiery furnace for refusing to worship the pagan gods of Babylon, as they loved the true God of Israel. God came and saved them from any harm! He will protect us as well when we are busy doing the work of the Kingdom of God.



#### How to Use the Lesson Kit:

This kit includes a variety of activities that you can select from to customize your perfect lesson. We suggest beginning with the Scripture Reading & Lesson followed by the Discussion Questions. From there, feel free to mix & match the activities to build your lesson plan based on the time you have allotted and the age level/interests of your kids.



#### WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- Scripture Reading & Lesson
- Discussion Questions
- Printable Craft
- Game
- Coloring Page
- Wordsearch
- Crossword Puzzle
- Learning Lookups Journaling
- Parent Handout
- Quiz
- Reference Sheet
- Certificate of Completion
- Answer Page



#### MATERIALS LIST:

- Crayons
- Glue sticks/glue
- Scissors
- One flashlight (game)
- Three different colored balloons (game; small water balloons are fine), two of each color
- A bunch of white balloons
- White paper/Cardstock
- Tissue Paper (red, orange, yellow)
- Pencils or pens
- Bibles (electronic or hardcopy)



# FIERY FURNACE

## SCRIPTURE & LESSON

### PASSAGE: DANIEL

Read the following excerpts as shown (NIV translation), or read from your chosen Bible translation:



### Daniel 3

King Nebuchadnezzar made an image of gold, sixty cubits high and six cubits wide, and set it up on the plain of Dura in the province of Babylon.<sup>2</sup> He then summoned the satraps, prefects, governors, advisers, treasurers, judges, magistrates and all the other provincial officials to come to the dedication of the image he had set up.<sup>3</sup> So the satraps, prefects, governors, advisers, treasurers, judges, magistrates and all the other provincial officials assembled for the dedication of the image that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up, and they stood before it.

<sup>4</sup> Then the herald loudly proclaimed, “Nations and peoples of every language, this is what you are commanded to do: <sup>5</sup> As soon as you hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipe and all kinds of music, you must fall down and worship the image of gold that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up. <sup>6</sup> Whoever does not fall down and worship will immediately be thrown into a blazing furnace.”

<sup>7</sup> Therefore, as soon as they heard the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp and all kinds of music, all the nations and peoples of every language fell down and worshiped the image of gold that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

<sup>8</sup> At this time some astrologers came forward and denounced the Jews.<sup>9</sup> They said to King Nebuchadnezzar, “May the king live forever! <sup>10</sup> Your Majesty has issued a decree that everyone who hears the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipe and all kinds of music must fall down and worship the image of gold, <sup>11</sup> and that whoever does not fall down and worship will be thrown into a blazing furnace.<sup>12</sup> But there are some Jews whom you have set over the affairs of the province of Babylon—Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego—who pay no attention to you, Your Majesty. They neither serve your gods nor worship the image of gold you have set up.”

<sup>13</sup> Furious with rage, Nebuchadnezzar summoned Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. So these men were brought before the king, <sup>14</sup> and Nebuchadnezzar said to them, “Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the image of gold I have set up? <sup>15</sup> Now when you hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipe and all kinds of music, if you are ready to fall down and worship the image I made, very good. But if you do not worship it, you will be thrown immediately into a blazing furnace. Then what god will be able to rescue you from my hand?”



### Daniel 3

<sup>16</sup> Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to him, “King Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter. <sup>17</sup> If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and he will deliver us from Your Majesty’s hand. <sup>18</sup> But even if he does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up.”

<sup>19</sup> Then Nebuchadnezzar was furious with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, and his attitude toward them changed. He ordered the furnace heated seven times hotter than usual <sup>20</sup> and commanded some of the strongest soldiers in his army to tie up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and throw them into the blazing furnace. <sup>21</sup> So these men, wearing their robes, trousers, turbans and other clothes, were bound and thrown into the blazing furnace. <sup>22</sup> The king’s command was so urgent and the furnace so hot that the flames of the fire killed the soldiers who took up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, <sup>23</sup> and these three men, firmly tied, fell into the blazing furnace.

<sup>24</sup> Then King Nebuchadnezzar leaped to his feet in amazement and asked his advisers, “Weren’t there three men that we tied up and threw into the fire?”

They replied, “Certainly, Your Majesty.”

<sup>25</sup> He said, “Look! I see four men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and the fourth looks like a son of the gods.”

<sup>26</sup> Nebuchadnezzar then approached the opening of the blazing furnace and shouted, “Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!”

So Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego came out of the fire, <sup>27</sup> and the satraps, prefects, governors and royal advisers crowded around them. They saw that the fire had not harmed their bodies, nor was a hair of their heads singed; their robes were not scorched, and there was no smell of fire on them.

<sup>28</sup> Then Nebuchadnezzar said, “Praise be to the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who has sent his angel and rescued his servants! They trusted in him and defied the king’s command and were willing to give up their lives rather than serve or worship any god except their own God. <sup>29</sup> Therefore I decree that the people of any nation or language who say anything against the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego be cut into pieces and their houses be turned into piles of rubble, for no other god can save in this way.”

<sup>30</sup> Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the province of



## Questions for Children about the Fiery Furnace

1. What did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego do in the beginning of the story that was considered a crime? **They refused to worship the idol.** Obviously, King Nebuchadnezzar was not running a democracy like America has. How would you feel if our President could force you to bow down and worship a disgusting idol? How might you respond if that were the case?
2. Looking into the heat of the fire, the king said, “Look! I see four men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and the fourth looks like a son of the gods.” Who do you think the fourth man was? **Scholars believe it was either an angel like Michael or the Lord Jesus.** The fact that the four of them were just chatting it up in the fiery furnace... What does that tell you about God’s ability to protect those of us who make him proud and happy?
3. King Nebuchadnezzar made a beautiful apology for his actions. He said this: 28 **“Praise be to the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who has sent his angel and rescued his servants! They trusted in him and defied the king’s command and were willing to give up their lives rather than serve or worship any god except their own God. 29 Therefore I decree that the people of any nation or language who say anything against the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego be cut into pieces and their houses be turned into piles of rubble, for no other god can save in this way.”** Obviously, this king was from a bloody and violent culture. He was still threatening to kill people for their words and beliefs! But what is remarkable about this apology? **He admitted he was wrong. He admitted to belief in the true God.** He stood up for the real God. How much favor will God give you when you apologize for sins that are small in comparison?



## TEACHER’S MIGHTY MESSAGE

We can learn a lot from these three brave men who risked death to stand up for God. First, they resisted a lot of peer pressure. Everyone around them was worshipping these dumb idols.

We’ve all been in situations where people are telling us to join them in doing something wrong. We either have, or will, say to our parents, “everyone’s doing it!” We can learn from these three brave heroes to watch for what’s right and what’s wrong instead of the number of people who don’t care that something is wrong.

We can learn to look for God’s will when we make choices in our daily lives. That way, if trouble comes, we will already have faith in God that he will protect us.

Finally, we can learn the great depths of God’s protection. He was willing to go into the fire and speak to the three men. None of them were the least bit hurt. They didn’t even smell like smoke.

How is God able to protect you when you are doing his will, making him happy, and asking him to protect you?



# FIERY FURNACE

## PRINTABLE CRAFT



### MATERIALS:

- Fiery Furnace Printable Craft File (two pages)
- White Paper or Cardstock
- Coloring Utensils
- Scissors
- Glue
- Tissue Paper (colors red, orange, and yellow)



### PREPARATION:

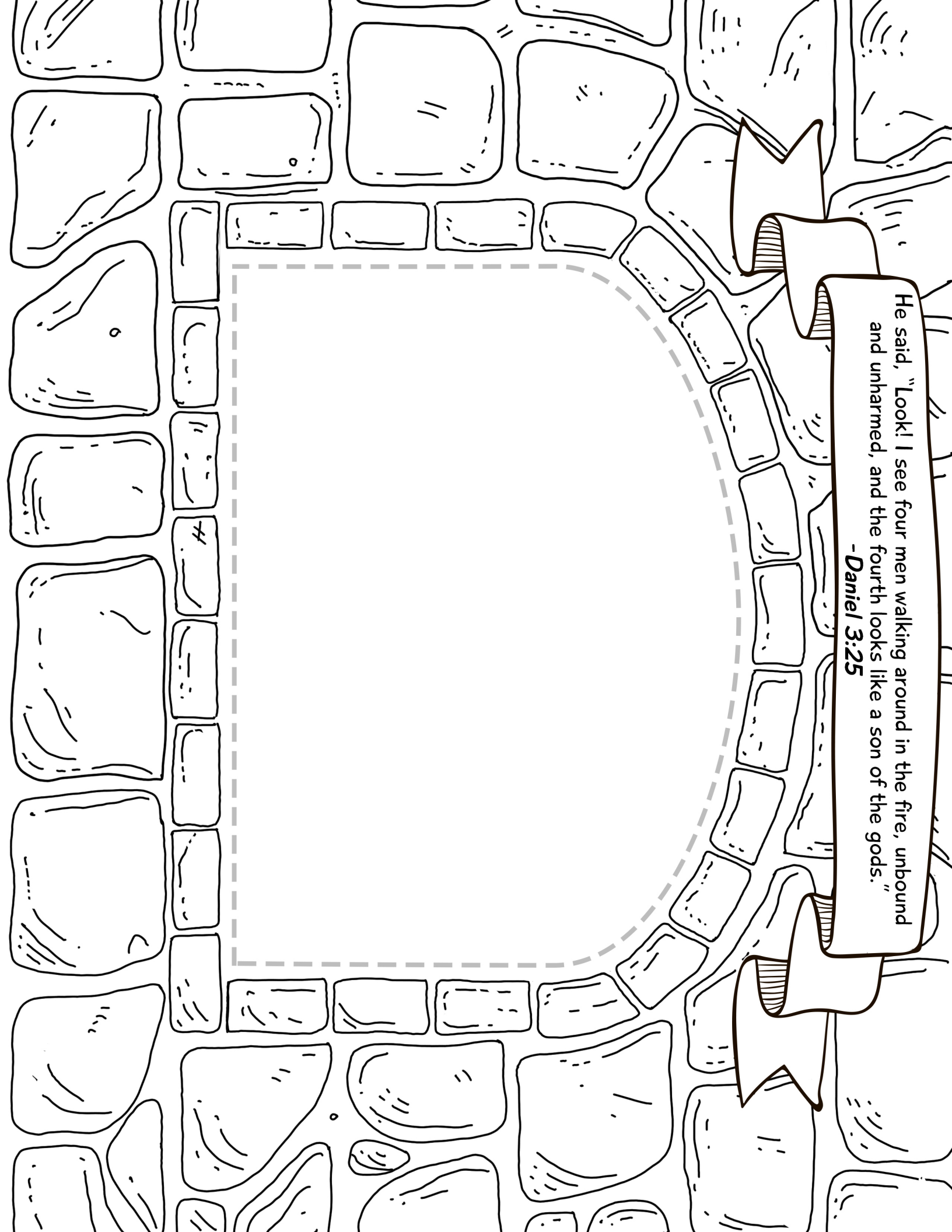
- Print one copy of each page for each student,
- Precut tissue paper in rectangles, slightly larger than opening of furnace

### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Color pages as desired
2. Carefully cut out center of furnace
3. Cut Tissue paper in flame shapes
4. Place tissue paper as desired on page with figures, layering the colors red, yellow and orange to create flames and paste underneath figures
5. Paste the front of the furnace page onto the back, framing the tissue paper flames

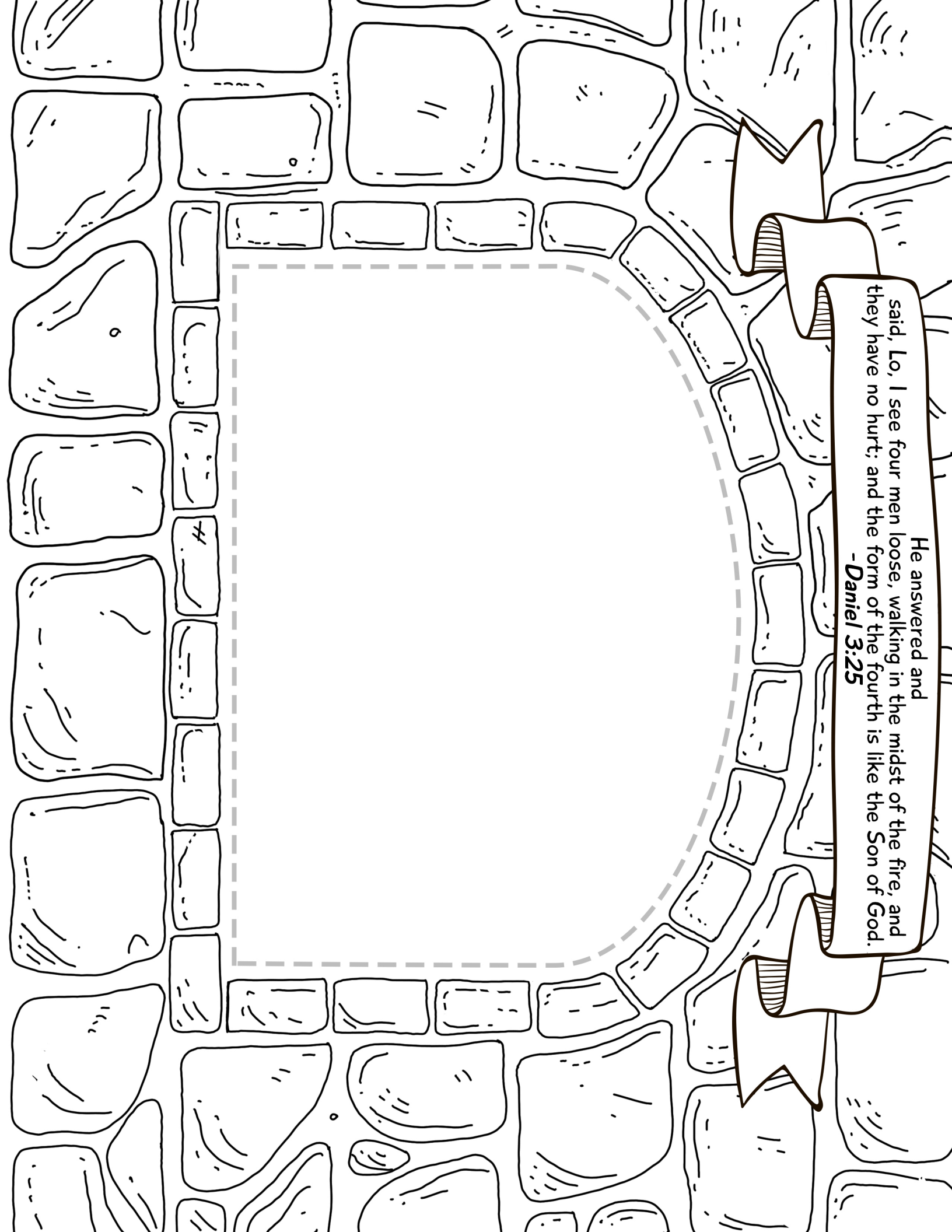






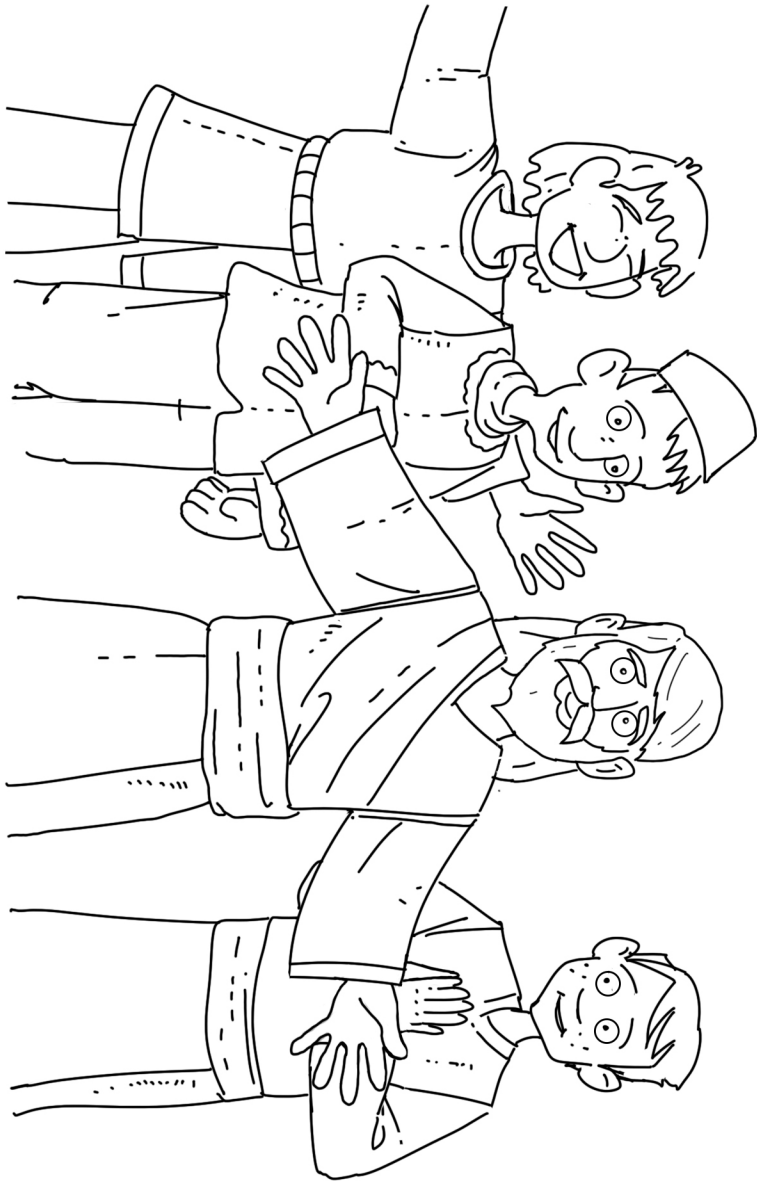
He said, "Look! I see four men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and the fourth looks like a son of the gods."

*-Daniel 3:25*



He answered and  
said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and  
they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.  
- *Daniel 3:25*







"Look! I see four men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and the fourth looks like a son of the gods."

**-Daniel 3:25**



# Color by Numbers!

1 = Red

3 = Yellow

5 = Green

7 = Blue

9 = Black

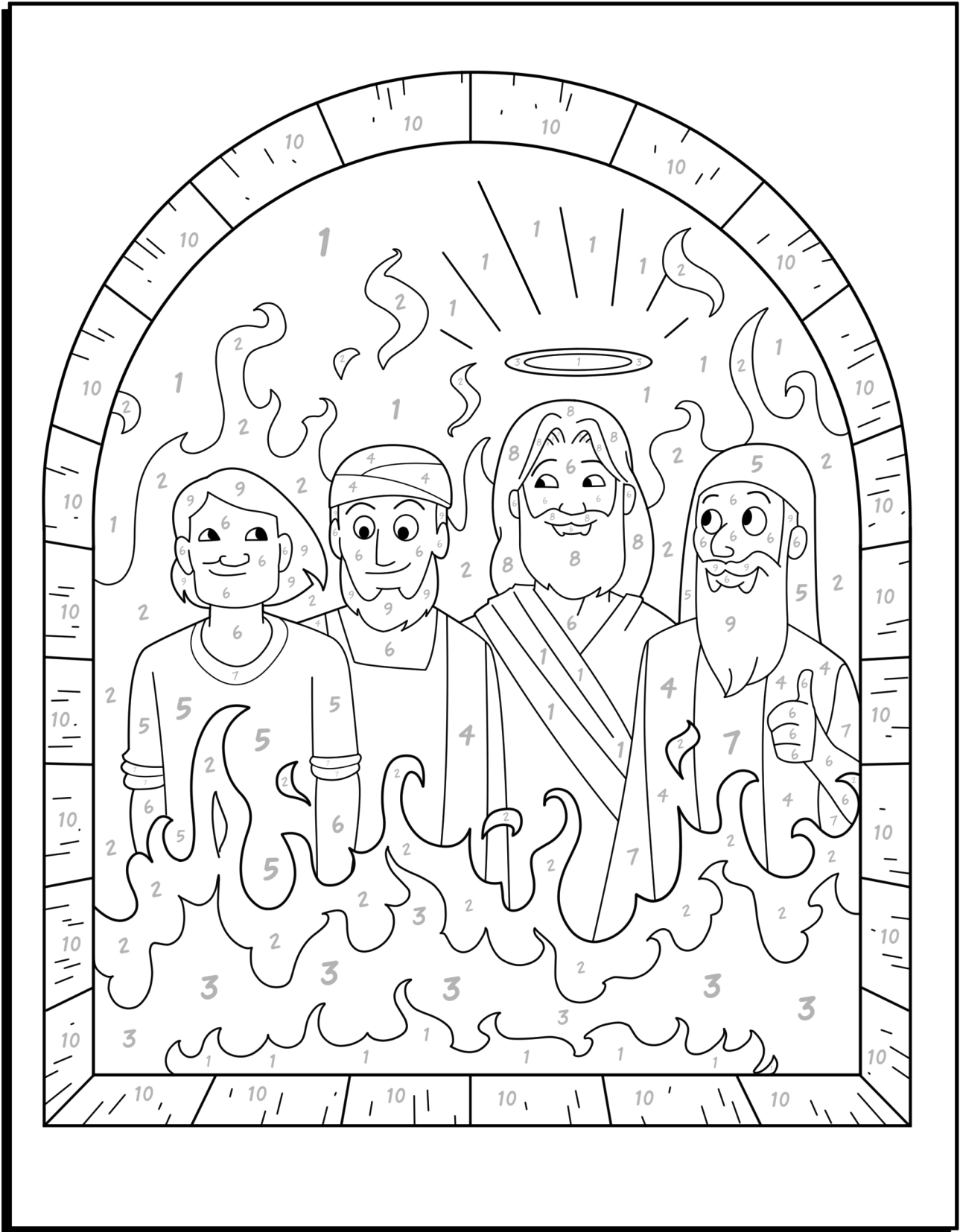
2 = Orange

4 = Purple

6 = Skin tone

8 = Brown

10 = Gray



Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego  
escape the fiery furnace.

**Daniel 3**



## GAME

### RACE AROUND THE FIERY PIT

It's a lot of make-pretend—most kids' favorite challenge. In this game, the flashlight beam is the fire in the fiery pit. The balloons are Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Your students get to pretend they are the fourth person (or the angel) in the pit who comes to their rescue! You need a very dark playing area.



#### MATERIALS:

- One flashlight
- Six balloons of three different colors (small water balloons are fine), two of each color
- A bunch of white balloons



#### OBJECTIVE:

- Collect the most characters

#### Preparation

1. Create a playing area of around 10 x 10 feet.
2. Blow up two sets of the three colored balloons, plus a bunch of white ones, maybe 12.
3. Write one name of Shadrach, Meshach, or Abednego on each of the colored balloons in marker. Create an extra set in case one of the first three balloons gets broken.
4. Turn out all the lights and pull the blinds so there is as little light as possible.

### INTRODUCTION

In the lesson, you learned that God rescued his brave friends from the fiery pit. Now, you get to be the angels who rescue Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego! Get on your knees and get ready.



#### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Choose one student to be the fiery pit and give them the flashlight.
2. Have all other students get on their knees at the other end of the playing area, facing away, while you place all the balloons in a pile in the center of the play area.
3. Tell the students they must find the character you say, who is among all the balloon characters in the fiery pit. Tell them a broken white balloon is a penalty of one point to the person who broke it. A broken colored balloon means the person is out of the game.
4. Get the person who is the fire to shake the beam the flashlight frantically all around the ceiling, walls, and floor in a frantic manner, not stopping on anything.
5. When you say, "Find Shadrach!" the class will race on their knees to the balloons and try to find the colored one with "Shadrach" written on it. (Note: playing on knees is important, as it will prevent head-banging.) When one student finds the balloon, he should hold it up and say, "Shadrach found!"
6. That student wins the round. The balloon is removed from the playing floor.
7. For each new round, have students turn their backs again while you rearrange the balloons.
8. Repeat the instructions with "find Meshach!" and "find Abednego!"
9. To break ties, put the three colored balloons back in the fire and have any players who tied play a round alone.





# GAME

## Closing

How did it feel to be the saving angel of three Bible heroes? How did it feel to go into the fire to reward what is right? All around us in this world, people are putting peer pressure on others to do the wrong thing. They will say things like, “everyone is doing it.” Or, “don’t be a baby.” Remember Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who didn’t give in. And when you see someone else stand their ground in the pressures of this world, be that fourth person who rewards goodness. Reward that person with your friendship.



# WORD SEARCH

People can pressure you to do all sorts of things you know are wrong. Just some of those things are below. Ten words are wrong things we can get talked into. Ten are bad attitudes which cause us to do them. Find them all in the word puzzle...and remember not to do them yourself!

C	Q	I	N	D	I	F	F	E	R	E	N	C	E	M	D
S	L	L	R	P	V	S	B	H	W	A	J	V	W	L	I
E	A	A	H	S	M	M	F	H	N	X	W	Q	N	K	V
L	R	Z	A	F	A	G	J	E	A	L	O	U	S	Y	I
F	J	I	T	G	H	R	O	N	D	I	V	I	D	E	S
I	U	N	R	X	Y	F	C	S	S	N	E	A	K	R	I
S	S	E	E	H	D	Y	I	A	S	T	T	P	U	V	O
H	T	S	D	S	X	L	I	E	S	I	B	B	I	M	N
N	I	S	W	A	K	H	C	W	V	M	P	E	T	D	T
E	A	C	A	R	E	L	E	S	S	N	E	S	S	M	F
S	V	E	X	A	G	G	E	R	A	T	E	H	S	Y	L
S	E	U	J	A	B	I	J	O	W	B	J	I	Y	A	T
S	N	G	M	R	A	P	A	T	H	Y	T	P	E	A	T
M	G	F	S	G	B	U	L	L	Y	O	H	T	E	B	V
U	E	D	S	U	L	K	L	K	G	F	S	H	N	G	O
H	D	U	E	E	S	K	F	E	E	X	C	D	L	W	I

### Words to Find:

LIE  
CHEAT  
STEAL  
GOSSIP  
BULLY

SNEAK  
EXAGGERATE  
DIVIDE  
ARGUE  
AVENGE

SARCASM  
HATRED  
INDIFFERENCE  
APATHY  
LAZINESS

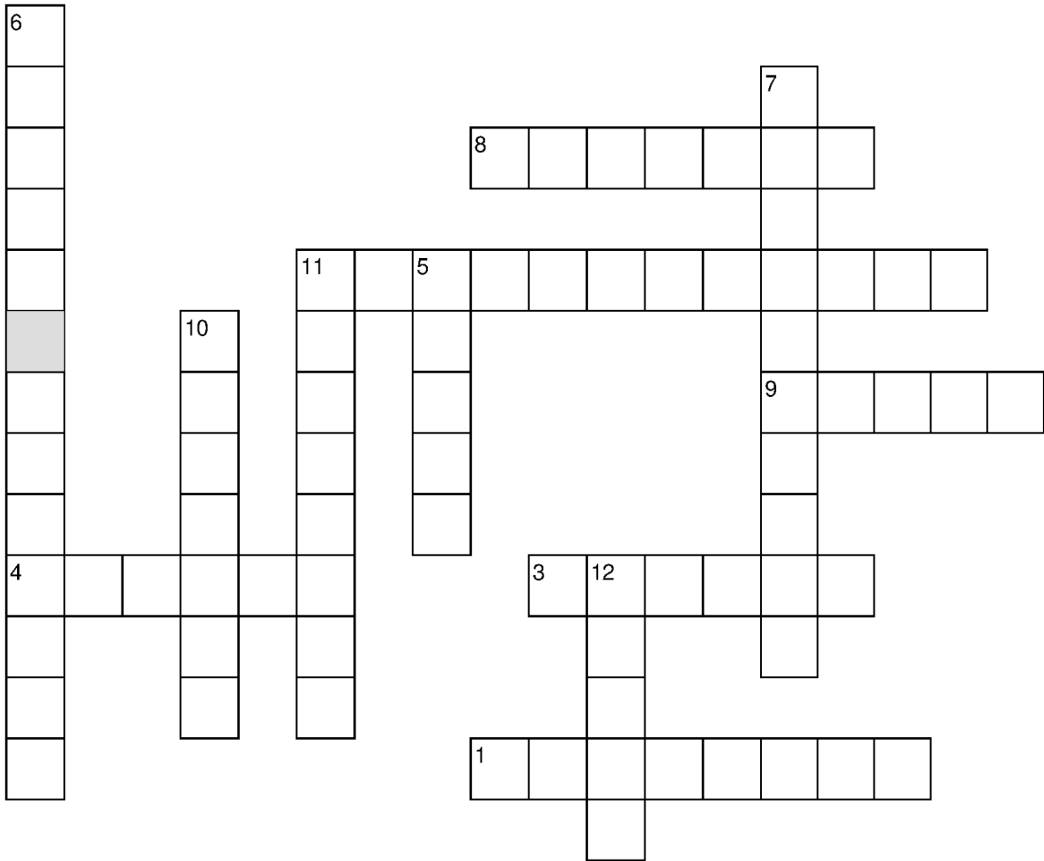
CARELESSNESS  
SELFISHNESS  
EGOTISM  
JEALOUSY  
DIVISION





# CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Use your At-A-Glance Sheet about the whole Book of Daniel to fill in the crossword below and learn more about one of the Bible's greatest prophets.



**Across**

- 1. The last of the three in the furnace
- 3. The first of the major prophets in the Bible.
- 4. Number of minor prophets in our Old Testament
- 8. An angel mentioned in Daniel as “the great prince who protects”
- 9. Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will do this someday
- 11. Another name for worshipping many gods

**Down**

- 5. In Daniel 6, Daniel himself is thrown into a den filled with these
- 6. BC in which the Book of Daniel was written
- 7. Name of the King who saw an invisible hand writing on the wall
- 10. Daniel was still a teen when he was deported to this place
- 11. Type of “major” book in the Bible where this story is found
- 12. The chapter in Daniel that takes a turn away from story-telling to prophecy



# PARENT HANDOUT



**Scriptures to Read:** Daniel 3:8-12, 19-27



## This Week We Learned About ...

...Daniel 3 and the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. The lesson from the story is both scary and inspiring of peace and joy. The three righteous Jews were thrown into a fiery furnace for refusing to worship the pagan gods of Babylon, as they loved the true God of Israel. God came and saved them from any harm! He will protect us as well when we are busy doing the work of the Kingdom of God.



### ✓ Questions for Kids:

1. The king was angry because the three men wouldn't do this. **A. Worship false gods.**
2. When the king was angry, he did what to the furnace? **A. Made is hotter.**
3. When the king looked into the furnace how many men did he see? **A. Four.**

### ✓ Dinner Table Discussion:

Have you ever been pressured to do something that you knew God didn't want you to do? Tell the story of how you handled the situation.

This story teaches us that God will protect us if we do what is right. Think of some ways we experience peer pressure, or pressure from the people around us to do things we know we shouldn't. List them and come up with some ways to have faith in those situations.

### Scripture Notes (tuck in lunchboxes, tape to mirrors, etc.):



*If anyone, then, knows the good they ought to do and doesn't do it, it is sin for them. **James 4:17***



*Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. **Galatians 6:9***



*Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. **James 4:7***

# DANIEL

## AT-A-GLANCE



O.T. BOOK #27



AUTHOR: THE PROPHET DANIEL



WRITTEN: 536-530 BC

The story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego is exciting, but only one of the memorable details in the life of the great prophet Daniel. Below is information about his entire book, the Book of Daniel, found in our Old Testament.

**Type of Book:** Prophecy/Major Prophecy. The prophet Daniel, who documented the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the fiery furnace, is considered one of four major prophets in our Old Testament. The other three major prophets also have books named after them. They are Isaiah, Ezekiel, and Jeremiah. There are 12 minor prophets in the Old Testament with books written by or about them.

**Claims to fame:** The Book of Daniel contains the great stories of Daniel in the lions' den and Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the fiery furnace. It is also famous for its end-times prophecies that closely match the Book of Revelation.

### FAMOUS STORIES INCLUDED:

- King Belshazzar sees an invisible hand writing on the wall.
- Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the fiery furnace
- Daniel in the lions' den

### MOST FAMOUS VERSES:

At that time Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time your people – everyone whose name is found written in the book – will be delivered. ***Daniel 12:1***

Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. ***Daniel 12:2***

## Important Points about the Book:

- Daniel was still a teenager when he was deported to Babylon with many others in the Great Exile. Babylon was extremely polytheistic, worshipping many gods, but Daniel only wanted to worship the God of Israel.
- His faithfulness, wisdom, and education enabled King Nebuchadnezzar to say that the God of Israel is God.
- The chapters in Daniel are thick and focused, giving many details about one subject rather than a few details about many subjects. The first six chapters are history and include all the stories listed above. In Chapter 7, the book makes a turn and becomes prophecy about the future. Daniel hears from the angel Gabriel who announced that the exile will last 70 years. Daniel goes on to prophesy about our future, and things that have not taken place yet.





# LEARNING LOOKUPS



# FIERY FURNACE

**Lookup:** Hebrews 6:10 and write it down.

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**Lookup:** 2 John 1:8 and write it down.

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Question: The Bible says we are saved by grace. But these verses talk about rewards for doing the right thing, like the men in the fiery furnace did. What are some things you can do that God would like to see?

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Create a prayer below. Speak to God and write it. Ask God to always help you make the right choice, even if it's the harder choice. Use your own words:

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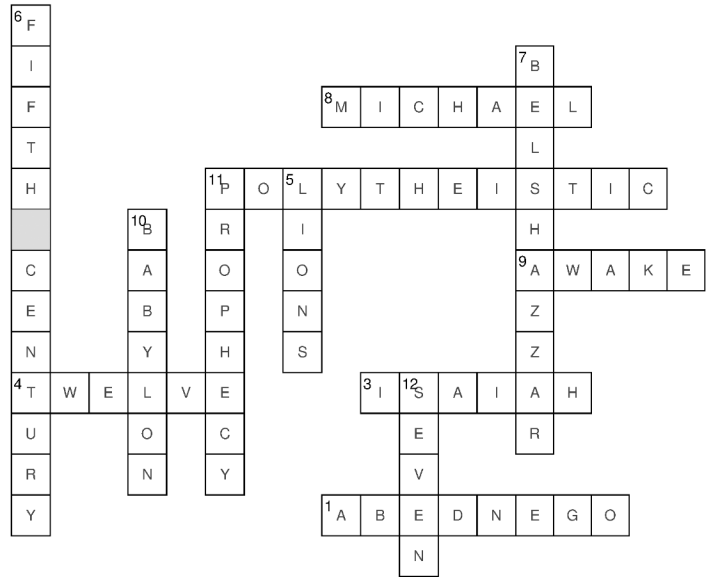
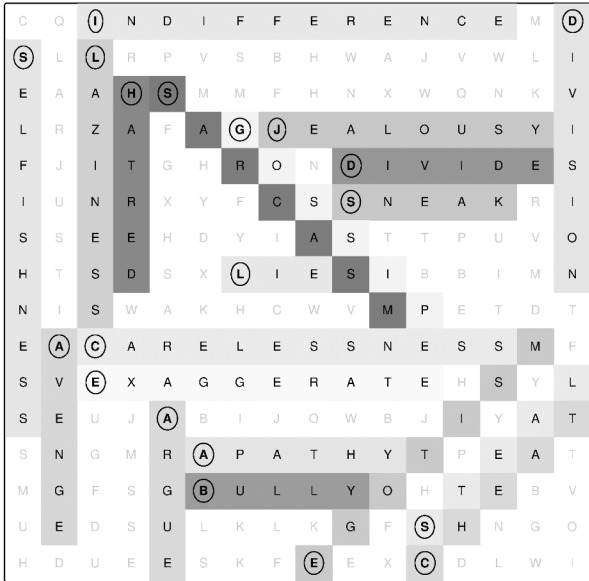
**Instructions:** Look up the passage of the Fiery Furnace in Daniel 3 to fill in the blanks and learn the story.

### FILL IN THE FIERY FURNACE BLANKS

1. King \_\_\_\_\_ made an image of gold and demanded the people worship it.
2. He said whoever does not fall down and worship it will be thrown into a \_\_\_\_\_ furnace.
3. “....\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ neither serve your gods nor worship the image of gold you set up.
4. The three said, “...If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the \_\_\_\_\_ we serve is able to deliver us from it...”
5. King Nebuchadnezzar ordered the furnace heated \_\_\_\_\_ times hotter than usual and commanded some of the strongest soldiers in his army to tie the three men up.
6. Nebuchadnezzar said, He said, “Look! I see \_\_\_\_\_ men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and the fourth looks like a son of the gods.”
7. They saw that the fire had not harmed their bodies, nor was a hair of their heads singed; their robes were not \_\_\_\_\_, and there was no smell of fire on them.
8. Nebuchadnezzar said, “Praise be to the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who has sent his \_\_\_\_\_ and rescued his servants!”
9. Then the king \_\_\_\_\_ Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the province of Babylon.



# ANSWER KEY



### Quiz Answers:

- Nebuchadnezzar
- blazing
- Shadrach
- Meshach
- Abednego
- God
- three
- four
- scorched
- angel
- promoted



# FIERY FURNACE

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_