

Adventures with GOD!

GOD SAVED THREE CHILDREN FROM DANGER (A.2.Spring.11)

Biblical Reference	Daniel 3:1-30
Key Verse	Daniel 3:17
Key Concept	God keeps me safe in times of danger.
Educational Objectives	At the end of class today, children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Describe the attitude of the three young men to King Nebuchadnezzar.2. Say the name of the three young men.3. Give thanks to God for protection in times of danger.

Life Application

We have all experienced difficult times, and sometimes it's hard to believe that God is actually God is with us and hearing our prayers. Yet, God is always caring for us and giving us security by bearing our anguish, pain and sadness with us. Our trust in God should never stop regardless of what we are going through, because we love and serve a faithful God. Encourage children to be mindful of the ways God is caring for them throughout the week.

Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
Opening Prayer	Candle	1 minute
Bible story	Bible, pictures	10 minutes
Key Verse		10 minutes
Activity	Blanket	5 minutes
Song		10 minutes
Craft	Illustration, crayons	10 minutes
Conclusion	Snacks	10 minutes
Closing Prayer	Candle	1 minute

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INSTRUCTIONS

Opening Prayer

Gather children around a candle and explain that we are entering into a special time with God. Encourage the children to hold their hands out in front of them, palms up, as a sign they are ready to receive what God has for them today. Light the candle.

Prayer: God we light this candle remembering: you made light, you made us, and you are with us now. Amen (For safety sake, you may wish to extinguish the candle after the prayer.)

Bible Story: Before class, decorate the classroom walls or board with pictures of fire, firefighters putting out fires, forests fire, etc. When children see the pictures, talk about how fire is dangerous when it is not controlled. Attached on page 6 is a visual with a very short way to tell the story.

Open your Bible and read or paraphrase Daniel 3:1-30. Explain that the Bible tells of three boys who were taken to work. The names of the three children are difficult to say and remember: Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego (try to pronounce the names). They loved and wanted to serve God. But the king of that country was very bad. The king ordered them to kneel in front of a statue of gold and worship it instead of worshipping God. When they wouldn't kneel, the king ordered them to a hot place. Scary! The furnace was so hot that they could burn. But do you know what happened? God heard the prayer of the three boys and a miracle happened!

While the three boys were inside the world's hottest oven, not one of them was burned. The king went to the oven to see what happened, but when he arrived, he was surprised to see that not even the clothes on their backs were burned. There was also a fourth person with them. Who was in the oven with the three boys? It was an angel of God who was sent there to protect them and look after them. The same God, who saved the lives of three boys, is our Father, too. God is always ready to come to our rescue when we are in danger. God is powerful and strong, and is always there to help us, even if we can't always see God.

Key Verse: Using today's verse, keep in mind how very important it is for children at this age to have the Word of God instilled in their hearts and minds.

Craft: Using a large blanket on the floor, invite children to sit inside the blanket. Talk about how God will always take care of us no matter where we are. Children can color the illustrations found on pages 4-5 while reviewing the story.

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Snack: During snack, talk about the stories of relatives or friends who have experienced the care of God. Otherwise, tell Bible stories about people who experienced the care of God. For example, talk about when David fled from Saul, when people wanted to stone Jesus, when Paul left the city in a basket, or when Lot and his family escaped the burning city. There are many examples in the Bible.

End the time in prayer.

Song: "When fear I have trust in you" The lyrics of this song are:
Use any known and easy to sing melody.

// When fear I have trust in you . //
I trust God and praise his word .
God I trust and am not afraid .

Closing Prayer

Gather children around the candle again and light the candle.

Prayer: Thank you God for loving us, for sending your son Jesus into the world.

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Illustration

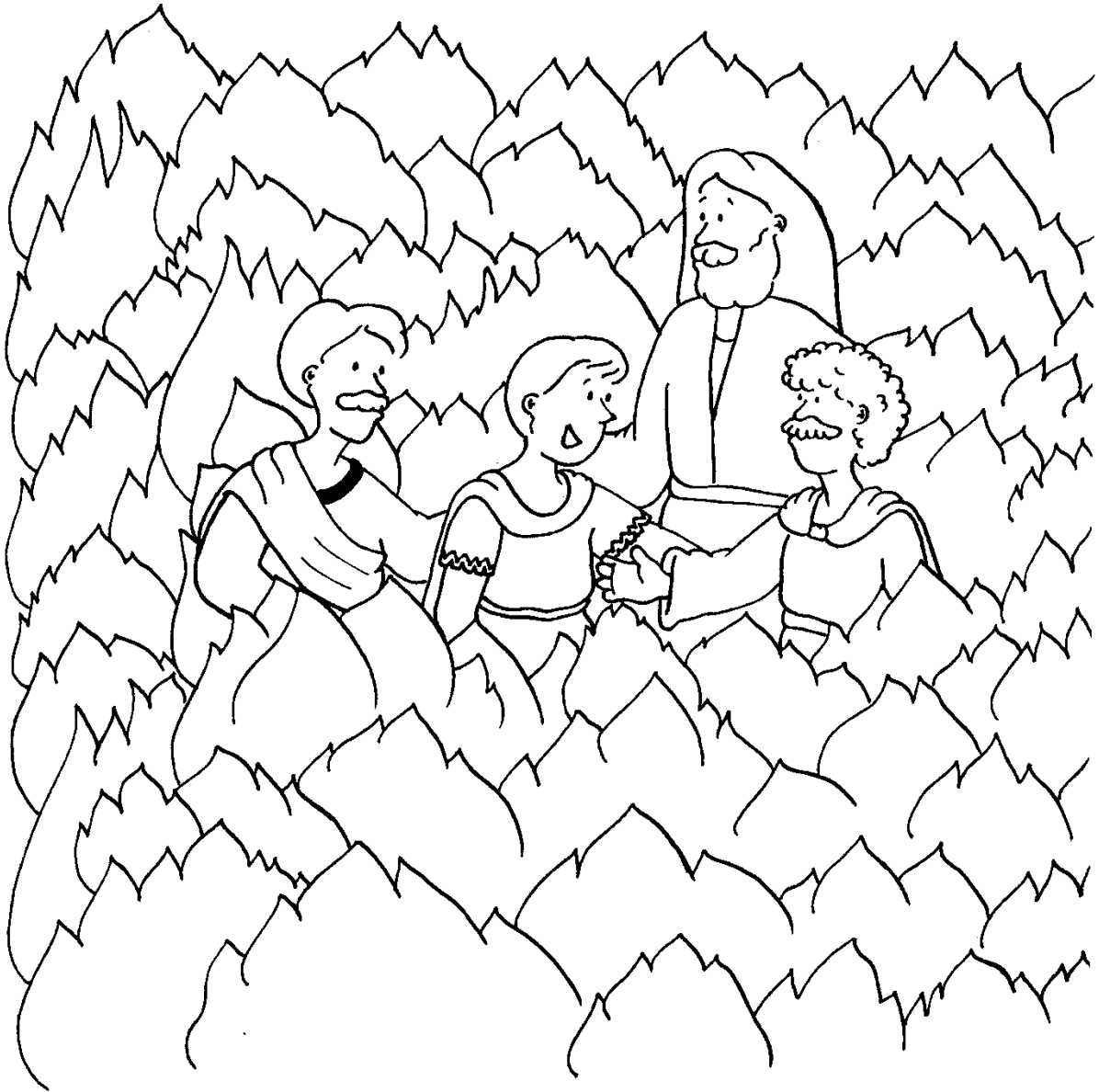
Friends of Daniel: Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego



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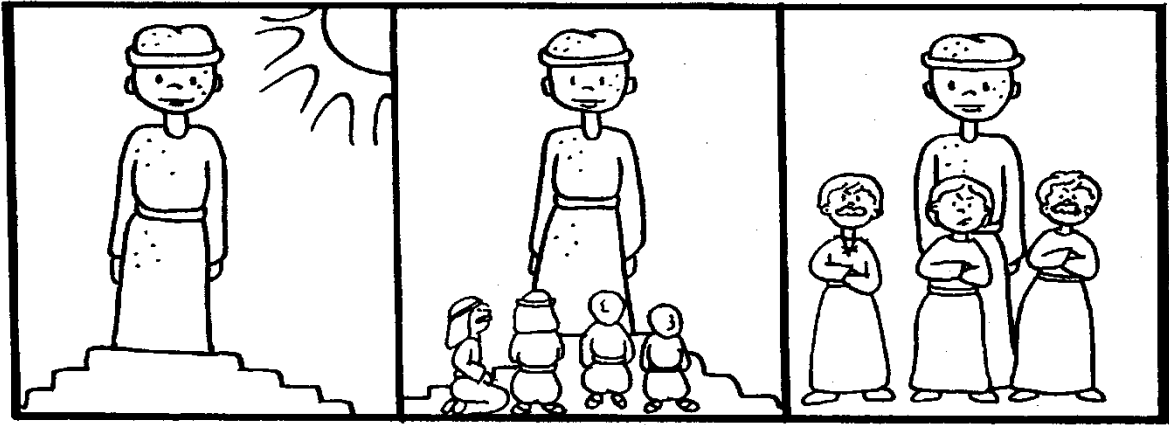
Craft

In the fire but not alone

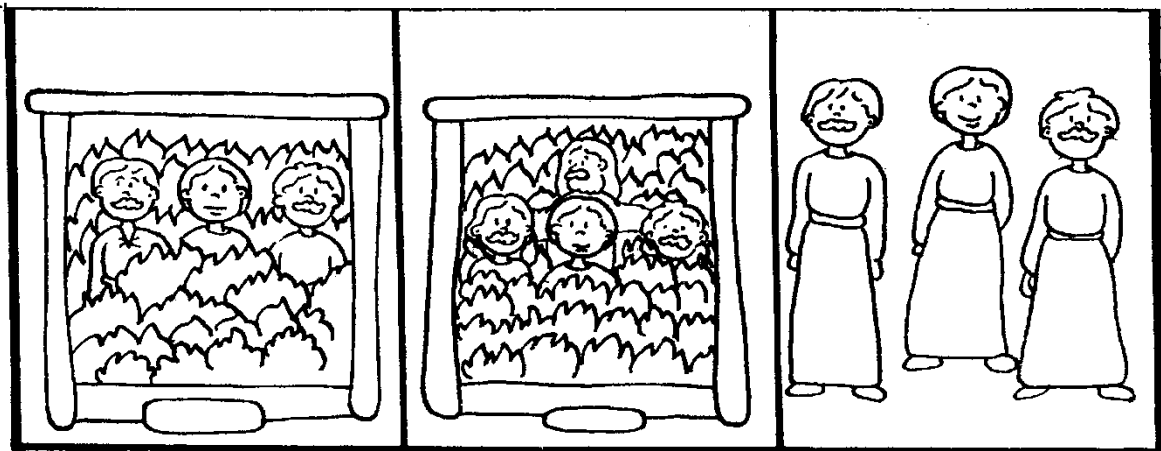


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Visual



Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego loved and worshiped only God.



King Nebuchadnezzar ordered everyone to worship the idols, but Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego did not.

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The king cast them into a furnace of fire, but God was with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.