

# Old Testament

## Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego

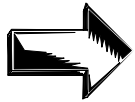
## Daniel 3:1-30

### Younger Verse

Don't worry about anything but pray about everything. Philippians 4:6

### Older Verse

Don't worry about anything but pray about everything. With thankful hearts, offer up your prayers and requests to God. Philippians 4:6



Teachers: This new unit is designed to help your children understand some of the stories in the Old Testament.

PLEASE remember always to include the New Testament verses—this helps each child see how God's ultimate plan was fulfilled in Christ!

### Welcome Time

Have you ever had to stand up for what was right when others wanted to do something wrong? Today's story is about 3 friends that did just that! They risked their lives for what they knew was right.

### Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

Last week we talked about Daniel and 3 of his friends. Their names were Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. They loved God and obeyed Him.

One day, the king made a gold statue that was about 9 stories high. Then, he told all of his leaders, including Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, to bow down and worship the gold statue when the beautiful music played. The king also said that if someone did not worship the statue, they would be thrown into a fiery furnace.

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego didn't bow down to the statue. They worshiped God and would not worship a gold statue. The other leaders saw that they did not obey the king. So, they told the king what the 3 men did.

The king was furious! He couldn't believe that they would not bow to the statue. He had the 3 guys brought into the palace. The king said, "Is it true that you did not bow down to my beautiful statue? I'll give you another chance. When the music plays again, if you bow down, nothing will happen to you. But if you don't, then we'll see if your God can save you!"

The 3 replied to the king, "King, we do not need to defend ourselves. The God whom we serve is able to save us, and He will rescue us from you. But, even if He doesn't, we want you to know that we will not serve your fake god statue."

O-o-o the king was sooo angry that he ordered the furnace to be heated 7 times hotter than normal. He commanded the strongest men in the army to tie the 3 up and throw them in.

### Lesson Goals

**To describe how the 3 men stood up for what was right**  
**To explain what we should do if someone wants us to do something wrong**

The fire was so hot that it killed the soldiers who threw the men into the fire!

Suddenly, the king rubbed his eyes. "What!" He said, "Didn't we throw 3 men into the fire! I can see 4 people! The three are not tied with rope and the fourth looks like the Son of God."

The king went to the opening of the furnace and shouted, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come here!"

So, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego came out. Do you know what? They didn't smell like smoke at all. Their clothes were not burned and their hair wasn't even singed.

The king praised God. He now knew that God was the only true and real God.

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego did a very courageous thing. They trusted God and they stood up for what was right.

Sometimes we have really tough choices to make too. Just like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, we must do what is right no matter what others think. We can remember that God promises to never leave us! He will be with us forever!

There is Someone who took the "heat" for us just like that 4th person did for the 3 guys. It was Jesus! Jesus died for us because He knew that there was no other way that we could be free to go to Heaven. Jesus knew that He could save us by dying on a cross for our sins. The best part is that He arose 3 days later to show that God is more powerful than death AND that when we trust Jesus, we have a future in Heaven with Him!

**Learning Activities**

Try activities to help them apply this fun lesson to their lives.

**Memory Verse Activities**

Talk about things that make the kids worry. Share how we can pray and ask God to help us with the problem/situation. Take time to pray for the worries and ask God to help the kids trust God with the situation.

**Prayer Time**

Ask God to help the kids stand up for what it right. Thank God for how He will be with us and help us.

**Snack Time/CleanUp**

Eat "hot" candy or jawbreakers.

Planning for Lesson 91  
Writing on a wall  
Daniel 5:1-31

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Preschool Lesson  
For  
Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego

I want to tell you a story that happened a long time ago.

Three men loved God very, very much. Their names were Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. We are going to call them Rak, Shak, and Benny for short. These 3 men were important people. They worked for the king.

One day the king decided to make a huge golden statue. It was very, very big. (Look way up into the sky) The king wanted everyone to bow down and worship the statue when beautiful music played. The king made a law that if someone did not bow down, they would be thrown into a fiery, hot furnace (like an oven).

Rak, Shak, and Benny knew that the statue was not God and they would not bow down to the false statue. The other leaders saw that they did not obey the king. So, they told the king what the 3 men did.

The king was furious! He couldn't believe that they would not bow to the statue. He had the 3 guys brought into the palace. The king said, "Is it true that you did not bow down to my beautiful statue? I'll give you another chance. When the music plays again, if you bow down, nothing will happen to you. But if you don't, then we'll see if your God can save you!"

The 3 replied to the king, "King, God whom we serve is able to save us, and He will rescue us from you. But, even if He doesn't, we want you to know that we will not serve your fake god statue."

O-o-o the king was sooo angry that he ordered the furnace to be heated 7 times hotter than normal. He commanded the strongest men in the army to tie the 3 up and throw them in.

Suddenly, the king rubbed his eyes. "What!" He said, "Didn't we throw 3 men into the fire! I can see 4 people! The three are not tied with rope and the fourth looks like the Son of God." The king also noticed that the men were not on fire!

The king went to the opening of the furnace and shouted, "Rak, Shak, and Benny, come out!"

So, Rak, Shak, and Benny came out. Do you know what? They didn't smell like smoke at all. (make a sniffing sound) Their clothes were not burned and their hair wasn't even singed.

The king praised God. He now knew that God was the only true and real God.

God loves us too. He wants us to tell others about Him and worship Him. Let's sing a song to God right now. (Sing a worship song that the kids will know.)

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Hands-On Activities  
For  
Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego

Make “No Fire” no bake cookies. Combine 2 C. Rice Krispies, 1 1/2 c. powdered sugar 1/4 tsp. vanilla extract and 1 18 oz. jar of peanut butter. Blend until it forms a dough. Roll into balls and enjoy!

Another food idea is to place a small marshmallow in a square graham cracker. Add chocolate syrup and 4 cinnamon candies to represent the 4 people in the fire.

Make orange and red Jell-O Jigglers as the “fire” for snack. (The recipe is on the back of the package.) Spray whipped cream on the Jell-O to “put out the flames.” The kids will LOVE it.

Act out the story. Bring a fan and tape red, yellow or orange crepe streamers on it. Turn it on to simulate “fire” when the men get in the furnace. Let the kids help the sound effect of a sizzling fire by hissing with their mouths or waving aluminum foil.

Bring Red Jelly Beans, Hot Tamales or other red snack to remind the kids of the “flames.”

Watch the Veggie Tale movie that goes with this story.

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