

Fiery Furnace

Daniel

Lesson 1

Lesson Objectives

- The children will identify Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego as three men who decided to obey God when no one else around them would.
- The children will state ways that God takes care of them.
- The children will state at least one situation in which they can obey even when no one else obeys.

Lesson Text

Daniel 3

Scripture Memory Verse

Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God.

Daniel 6:10

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Musical Instruments

Welcome and Singing

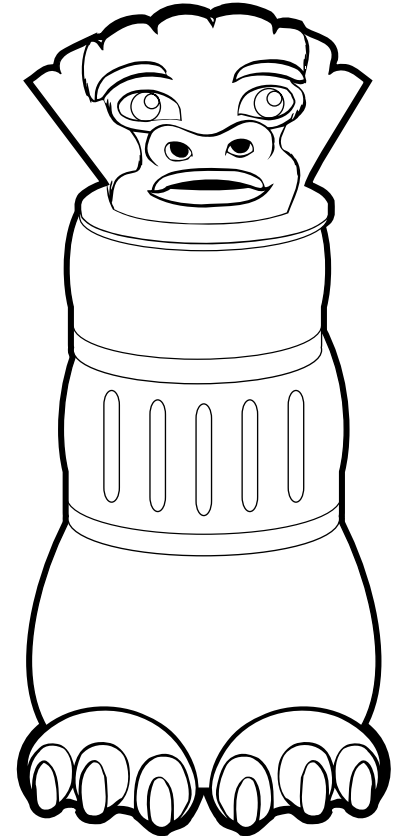
Centers:

Bible Story: Escaping the Flames

Life Application: Taking a Stand

Craft: Backpack for God

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.



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Musical Instruments

The children will make musical instruments to be used in the Bible story.

Materials

For each child:

- a toilet paper tube
- a rubber band
- glue stick

For the teacher:

- scissors
- construction paper
- stapler
- wax paper

Preparation

1. Cut a 3½" x 6" piece of construction paper for each child.
2. Cut a 4" square of wax paper for each child.
3. Make a model kazoo following the instructions.

Instructions

1. Give each child a toilet paper tube, a rubber band and a piece of wax paper. Have them cover one end of the tube with the wax paper and put a rubber band over it to hold it in place.
2. Give each child a piece of construction paper to glue around the tube. Help them to keep it flush with the end that is covered with wax paper. Be sure they leave the other end of the tube uncovered where the children will put their mouths. See Figure A.
3. Have the children hum into the open end of their tubes making kazoo-like sounds.
4. Help the children to write their names on their kazoos.
5. Give the kazoos to the Bible story teacher.

Conclusion

Have the children hum their favorite songs into their kazoos.

Teacher Tips

- Some children may have difficulty making the kazoo sounds. Help any student individually that is having trouble.

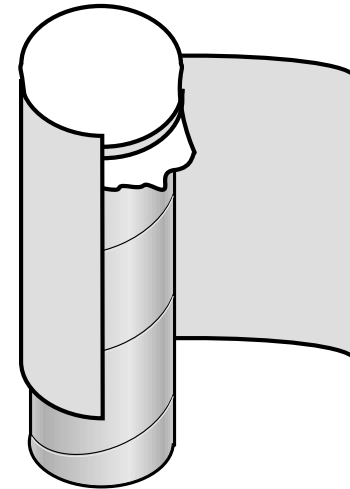


Figure A

Fiery Furnace

Escaping the Flames

The children will learn about three men who obeyed God and how God took care of them.

Lesson Text

Daniel 3

Materials

For the child:

- instruments from the Preclass Activity

For the teacher:

- Bible
- felt board
- scissors
- crayons or markers
- tape

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for the teacher
- Page B, 1 copy for the teacher

Preparation

1. Cut out and color the felt board figures from the copies of Reproducible Pages A and B. Be sure to color the statue gold.
2. Roll a piece of tape and place it on the back of each figure.

The Furnace

Have the children sit in a semicircle with their instruments on their laps. Have the Bible open to Daniel 3 as you tell the story.

Today we are going to learn about three men who decided to obey God when no one else around them was obeying. This is a true story from the Bible. It really happened. The three men were named Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (Shad-rak, Me-shack and A-bed-ni-go). Can you say those names with me? Practice repeating the names slowly with the children a few times. Show the children the felt board figures of the three men. Ask for a volunteer to put the figures on the felt board.

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were away from home. A king whose name was Nebuchadnezzar had taken the three men away from their home to be his servants. Show the children the figure of the king. Neither King Nebuchadnezzar nor any of his people

followed God. They did not go to church or even pray to God. They did not love or obey God. Have a child put the soldiers and the people on the felt board.

Show the children the figure of the statue. The king decided to build a huge, tall statue out of gold. He loved gold and he wanted everyone to bow down and worship the statue. Ask for a volunteer to place it on the felt board. The king said that as soon as the people heard the sounds of the instruments, that each person must fall down to the ground and worship the statue. Then the King said that if they did not do this, then they would be thrown into a hot, blazing furnace.

Do we worship statues? No, we worship God. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego worshiped God too. They loved God and didn't want to hurt him by worshipping a statue. So when the instruments played, have the children play their instruments, all of the people bowed down to the statue. Lie the soldiers down in front of the statue. But Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego stayed standing. Do you know why? Yes, they worshiped God, not a statue. They knew it would make God sad if they worshiped anything but him.

Some of the people did not like that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego didn't worship the statue so they told the King. Place the king on the felt board. Do you think the King was happy when he heard this? No! He was very angry that they did not obey him. He was so angry that he had them thrown into a hot, blazing furnace. Have a child put the fiery furnace on the felt board.

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego told the king that he could throw them into the furnace. Now why would they do that? Why would anyone want to be thrown into a furnace and get burned? They told the king they only worshiped God, even if that meant that they would be thrown into the furnace. They said that God might even rescue them, but that even if he did not, they would still not worship the statue! Wow! They must have really loved and trusted God!

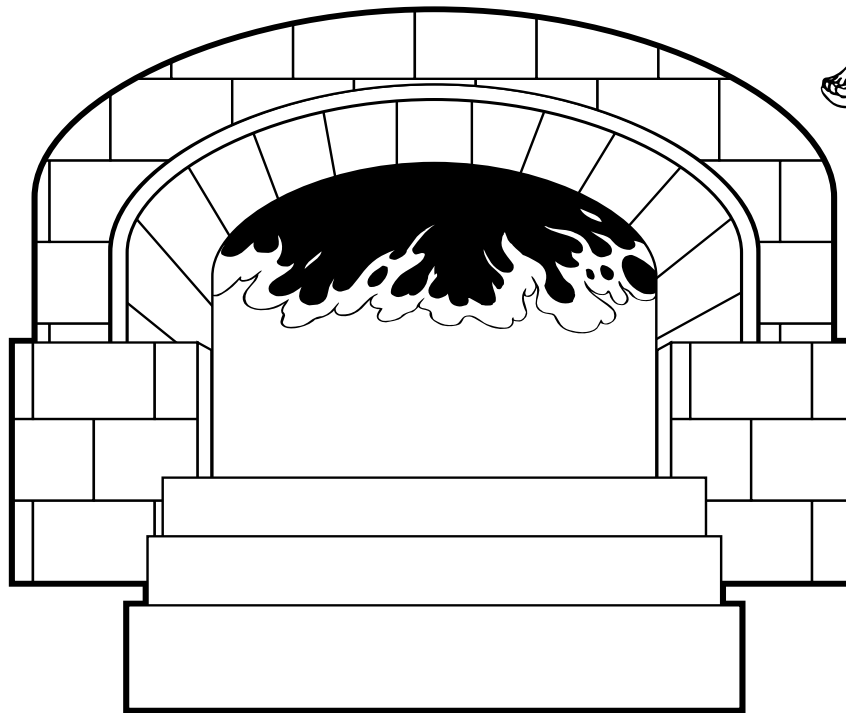
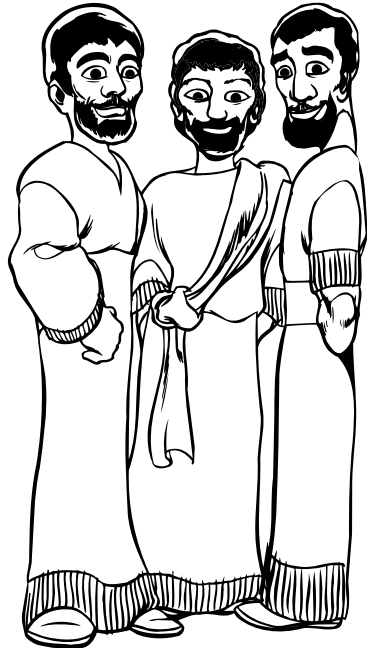
The king was so angry that he had his soldiers take them away and throw them into the furnace. Do you know what happened? God rescued them! He sent an angel into the furnace to protect them. They did not get burned at all! When the king saw that they didn't die in the furnace, he decided that he should worship God, too, instead of worshipping a statue.

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Conclusion

Ask the children the following questions as a review:

- Who protected the men and kept them from getting burned? (God)
- Was anyone else besides these men obeying God? (no)
- Was there anyone else who did not bow down to that statue? (no)
- Why didn't they bow down to it? (They loved God and wanted to obey him, they only worshiped God.)
- Do you think it was easy or hard for these men to obey God when no one else was obeying God? (hard)
- Do you think God was happy or sad that these men obeyed him? (happy)



Teacher Tips

- Have the children give the instruments to you after they have played them so that they won't be tempted to continue playing them during the rest of the Bible Story.



Taking a Stand

The children will state at least one situation where they can obey when no one else obeys.

Scripture Memory Verse

Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God.

Daniel 6:10

Materials

For the teacher:

- magazines
- scissors
- glue
- construction paper
- a penny

Preparation

1. Cut pictures out of magazines that depict the following: children at a party, a messy room, toys for preschoolers, a family eating or a child sitting down to eat, a playground.
2. Glue each picture onto a piece of construction paper.
3. Before the children arrive, place the pictures upside down on the floor.

Instructions

Explain that the Bible story is about Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego who were men who obeyed God even when no one else obeyed God. Explain that they are going to think about different ways that they can be like these men.

Choose a child to go first and give that child a penny to toss onto one of the pictures.

Have the child pick up the picture that the penny lands on (or the picture closest to where the penny lands).

Have the child show the picture to the class.

If the picture is of a party, ask the children what happens at parties (people eat cake, play games, give presents). Then ask if they have ever been to a party where the children are running around and not listening or obeying. Ask them how they could be like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and be the one who obeys,

even when no one else does. Repeat the activity until each child has had a turn.

After each child has had a turn, talk about how they think God feels when they obey, especially if no one else is obeying. *God feels very happy and is proud of us for doing something that is hard to do. When we obey God, it shows him that we love him very much. Do you want God to know that you love him very much? Yes! We show him that we love him every time we obey.*

Some additional discussion ideas for the pictures are as follows:

- Picture of the messy room - *What happens when Mom asks you and your friends to clean up and they do not? What do you do? How can you be like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego?*
- Picture of nice toys - *What happens when your friend has nice toys and does not share them with you? What can you do with your toys?*
- Picture of dinnertime - *Someone at the table is complaining that the food is yucky. What should you do?*
- Picture of the playground - *Someone at the playground is not friendly to you or the other kids. What can you do?*

Scripture Memory

Explain that Daniel was Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego's friend, and that they all prayed to God when no one else did. Then say the verse to the children twice. Then say it with them and then repeat, breaking it into segments.

Conclusion

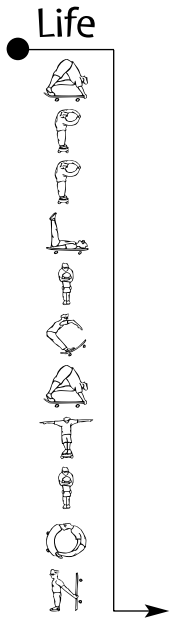
Tell the children that we get to pray and thank God several times a day; before our meals, at bedtime, etc. Explain that a lot of people do not pray because they don't know about God. *We should pray for them so they can learn about God.*

Explain that as they play with their friends they can talk to them about God and what they are learning in Bible class. God loves when we talk to our friends about him. This is another way that they can be like Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.

Teacher Tips

- Remind the children of how happy it makes God when we obey him.

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Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God.

Daniel 6:10



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Backpack for God

The children will make "backpacks" reinforcing the idea that God provides for and protects them.

Materials

For each child:

- 1 large paper grocery bag
- glue stick
- markers or crayons

For the teacher:

- scissors
- magazines
- tape

Preparation

1. Cut pictures out of magazines that show different ways that God provides and cares for children. Some suggestions are pictures of nature scenes, the sun, the moon, flowers, families, moms and dads, friends, animals, books, toys, etc. Cut approximately three pictures for each child.
2. Prepare a backpack for each child as follows:
 - A. Cut off the sides of the bag. See Figure A.
 - B. Open the bag and place it lengthwise on the work surface.
 - C. Cut three slits on the back of the bag, see Figure B, as follows:
 - 1) Cut one slit down the length of the back of the bag.
 - 2) Starting from the first slit, cut two additional slits halfway across the width of the back of the bag.
 - D. Fold back the paper along the slits making the "straps" of the backpack. See Figure C. Place tape along each strap to secure it in place.
 - E. Fold the front of the bag in half forming a pouch, and then tape it closed along the sides. See Figure D.
3. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.

Instructions

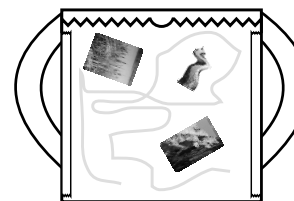
1. Introduce the craft as follows. *This week we are learning how God provides and takes care of us. In the Bible, God took care of three men who might have been burned by a furnace. God takes care of you, too.* Show the children your model of the craft pointing out the magazine pictures. *This is my backpack. God provides food that I carry in my backpack. These pictures remind me that God takes care of me in many ways!*
2. Give the children each a backpack, and then let them choose three of the magazine pictures to glue onto their backpacks.
3. Have the children decorate their backpacks with the markers.
4. Write the children's names on their backpacks.
5. Help each child to put on a backpack, and then tape the straps in place so that it can be taken on and off easily.

Conclusion

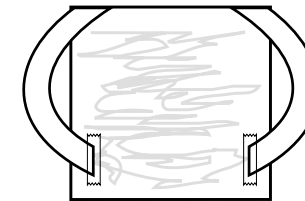
Have the children share with each other about the pictures that they chose for their backpacks. Have them explain what each picture shows about how God cares for them.

Teacher Tips

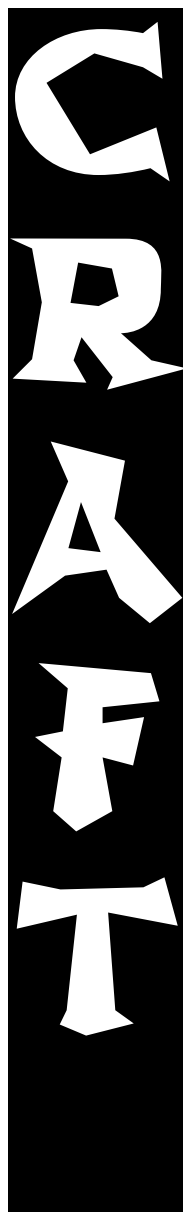
- Make the model first so that you have a chance to work with the instructions. Once you have made one backpack, helping the children with their backpacks should be easy.



front



back



CRAFT

Fiery Furnace

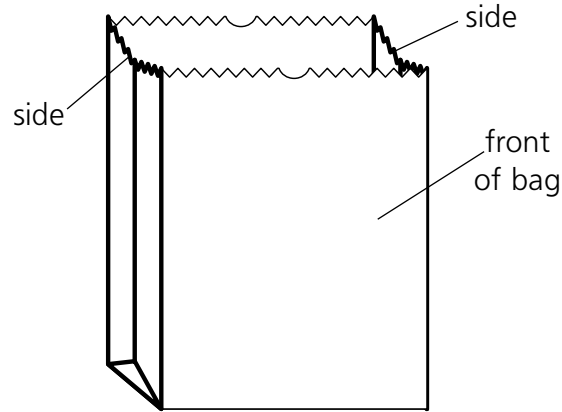


Figure A

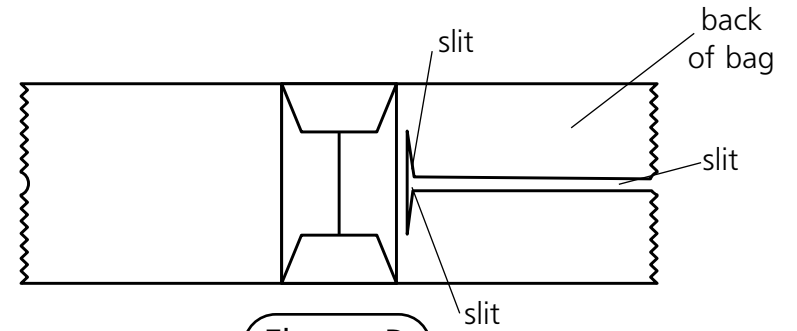


Figure B

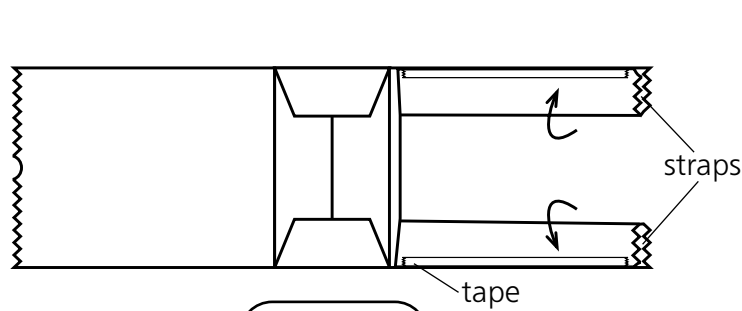


Figure C

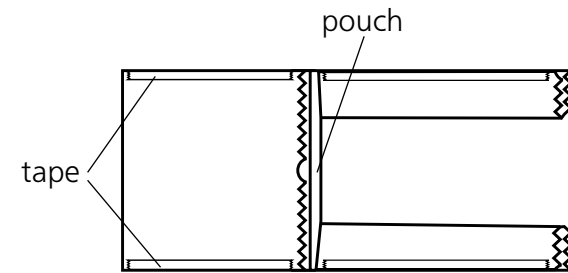
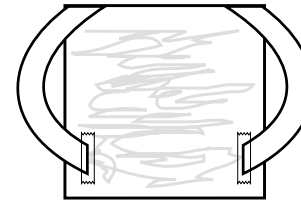


Figure D



front



back

Finished Craft





Pre class



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Lesson Objectives

- The children will identify Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego as three men who decided to obey God when no one else around them would.
- The children will state ways that God takes care of them.
- The children will state at least one situation in which they can obey even when no one else obeys.

Lesson Text

Daniel 3

Scripture Memory Verse

Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God.

Daniel 6:10

Musical Shaker

The children will make musical instruments to remind them of the story of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.

Materials

For each child:

- a toilet paper tube
- glue stick

For the teacher:

- scissors
- construction paper
- dried beans or macaroni
- stapler

Preparation

1. Cut a 4½" x 6" piece of construction paper for each child.
2. Make a model shaker for each child.

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Music Shaker

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Game: Matching Game

Craft: Stand Your Ground

Life Application: Taking a Stand

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack

Instructions

1. Remind the children of the Bible story about Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego (Shad-rak, Me-shack and A-bed-ni-go). Remind them that these men refused to worship the statue of gold when the instruments played. They decided that they would only worship God. Because of that choice, God protected them. Tell the children that they will make instruments to remind them of the story and to always choose to obey God.
2. Give each child a toilet paper tube and a piece of construction paper. Have them wrap the paper around the tube and glue it in place.
3. Pinch one end of each tube together, and have the children help you to staple them tightly closed.

4. Give each child a handful of beans to put into the tube.
5. Help each child to pinch the other end of the tube together, and then to staple it tightly closed.

Conclusion

Have the children play their shakers and sing songs together.

Teacher Tips

- Pinch the two ends in opposite directions to make a more interesting instrument.
- Use tinfoil to cover each end, and then hold it in place with rubber bands instead of stapling the tubes.



Matching Game

The children will match pictures reminding them of ways that God takes care of them.

Materials

For the teacher:

- 4 pieces of poster board, 8½" x 11"
- markers
- scissors

Preparation

1. Prepare the pictures as follows:
 - A. On one piece of poster board, draw and color a large sun.
 - B. On a second piece of poster board, draw and color a large rain cloud.
 - C. On a third piece of poster board, draw and color a large apple or other recognizable food item.
 - D. On a fourth piece of poster board, draw and color a person.
2. Cut each of the pictures in half.

Instructions

1. Have the children sit in a circle. Remind them that God loves us and takes care of us. Explain that this game will remind them of specific ways that God takes care of us.
2. Choose a child to go first and have him sit in the middle of the circle.
3. Give each child, including the child in the middle, half of one picture.
4. Have the child in the middle close his eyes.
5. Say the rhyme, "They Followed" from the Unit 11 Song Sheet, while the children pass their pictures around the circle.
NOTE: The child in the middle keeps the same picture.
6. When the rhyme is finished, have the children put their pictures face down on the floor in front of them.

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7. Have the child in the middle take three guesses as to which person has the picture that matches the picture he is holding.
8. If he guesses correctly, then he gets to say one way that God uses that object to protect him. For instance, the sun keeps us warm.
9. Choose another child to take his place. Continue playing until all the children have had a turn to sit in the middle of the circle.
10. If the matching picture is not found, have all of the children turn over their pictures. The child who has the matching picture can be next to sit in the middle of the circle.

Conclusion

Talk with the children about the different ways that God protects us.

Teacher Tips

- Practice the rhyme with the children a few times before you begin the game.



CRAFT

Stand Your Ground

The children will make 3-dimensional pictures and retell the Bible story.

Materials

For each child:

- glue stick
- crayons
- 1 paper plate

For the teacher:

- utility knife
- scissors

Reproducible Pages:

- Page C, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Prepare a paper plate for each child as follows:
 - A. Measure 3" across the edge of the plate and draw a line.
 - B. Using the utility knife, cut a curve around the inside rim of the plate from one end of the line to the other.
 - C. Fold up the cut portion of the plate, as shown in Figure A.
2. Cut out the pictures from the copies of Reproducible Page C.
3. Fold back the pictures that have dotted lines, making tabs, as shown in Figure B.
4. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.

Instructions

1. Show the children your picture. *Today you are going to make pictures to go along with the Bible Story you are learning.*
2. Give each child a set of pictures and crayons. Have them color in the pictures.
3. Give each child a paper plate and a glue stick. Have the children glue the pictures to their plate, see Figure C, as follows:
 - A. Glue the picture of the idol to the folded up section of the plate.
 - B. Glue the other three pictures, tabs down, to the left and right sides of the idol.
4. Write the children's names on their finished crafts.

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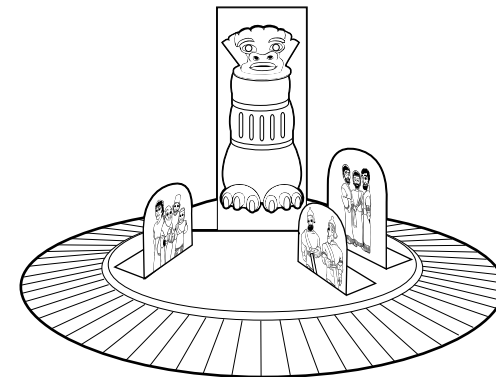
Lesson 1

Conclusion

Have the students take turns telling the Bible Story from Daniel 3, where Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego refused to bow down to a statue of gold. Even when the soldiers and people around them bowed down, they refused. They knew it wouldn't please God, because God wanted them to bow down and worship only him.

Teacher Tips

- If time permits, have the students color their plates.



fiery furnace

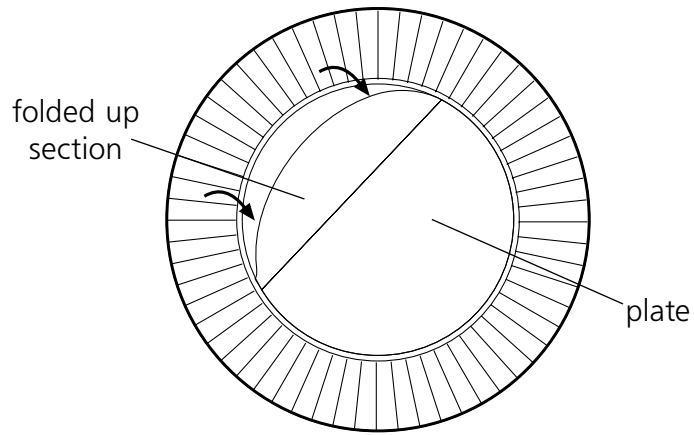


Figure A

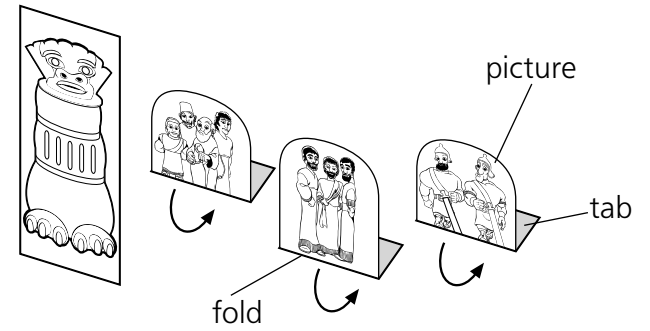


Figure B

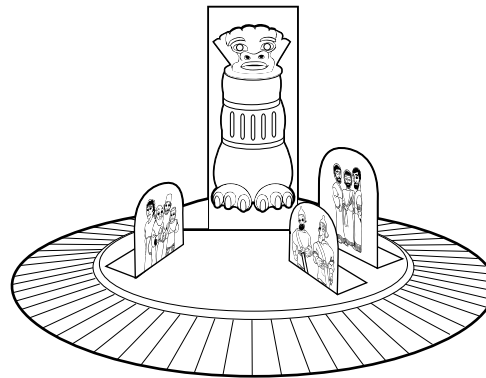


Figure C



Life



Taking a Stand

The children will state at least one situation where they can obey when no one else obeys.

Scripture Memory Verse

Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God.

Daniel 6:10

Materials

For the teacher:

- magazines
- scissors
- glue
- construction paper
- a penny

Preparation

1. Cut pictures out of magazines that depict the following: children at a party, a messy room, toys for preschoolers, a family eating or a child sitting down to eat, a playground.
2. Glue each picture onto a piece of construction paper.
3. Before the children arrive, place the pictures upside down on the floor.

Instructions

Explain that the Bible story is about Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego who were men who obeyed God even when no one else obeyed God. Explain that they are going to think about different ways that they can be like these men.

Choose a child to go first and give that child a penny to toss onto one of the pictures.

Have the child pick up the picture that the penny lands on (or the picture closest to where the penny lands).

Have the child show the picture to the class.

If the picture is of a party, ask the children what happens at parties (people eat cake, play games, give presents). Then ask if they have ever been to a party where the children are running around and not listening or obeying. Ask them how they could be like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and be the one who obeys,

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even when no one else does. Repeat the activity until each child has had a turn.

After each child has had a turn, talk about how they think God feels when they obey, especially if no one else is obeying. *God feels very happy and is proud of us for doing something that is hard to do. When we obey God, it shows him that we love him very much. Do you want God to know that you love him very much? Yes! We show him that we love him every time we obey.*

Some additional discussion ideas for the pictures are as follows:

- Picture of the messy room - *What happens when Mom asks you and your friends to clean up and they do not? What do you do? How can you be like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego?*
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- Picture of the playground - *Someone at the playground is not friendly to you or the other kids. What can you do?*

Scripture Memory

Explain that Daniel was Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego's friend, and that they all prayed to God when no one else did. Then say the verse to the children twice. Then say it with them and then repeat, breaking it into segments.

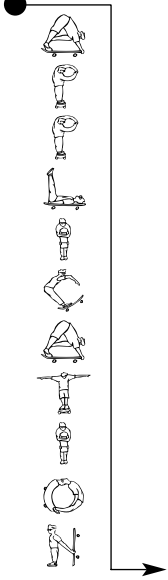
Conclusion

Tell the children that we get to pray and thank God several times a day; before our meals, at bedtime, etc. Explain that a lot of people do not pray because they don't know about God. *We should pray for them so they can learn about God.*

Explain that as they play with their friends they can talk to them about God and what they are learning in Bible class. God loves when we talk to our friends about him. This is another way that they can be like Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.

Teacher Tips

- Remind the children of how happy it makes God when we obey him.



Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God.

Daniel 6:10



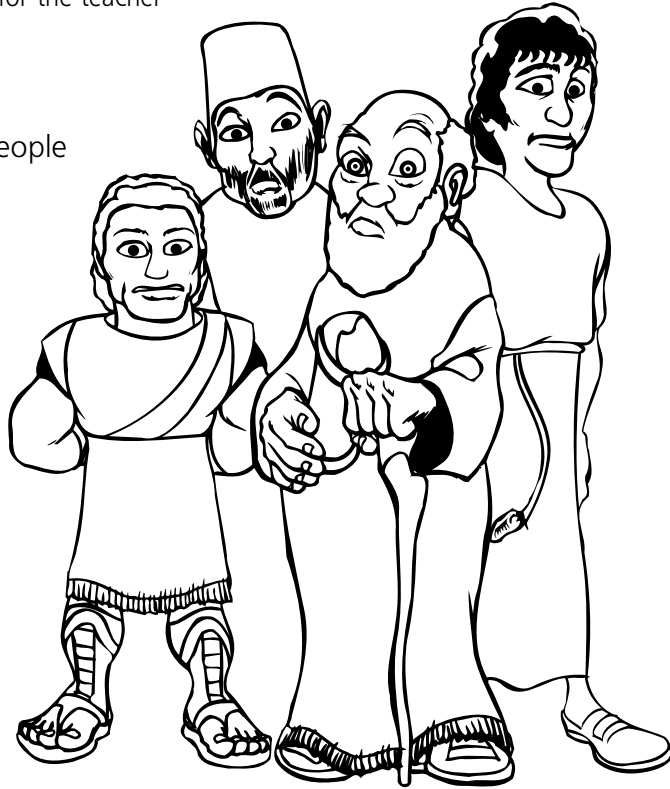
Core/Bible Story

1 copy for the teacher

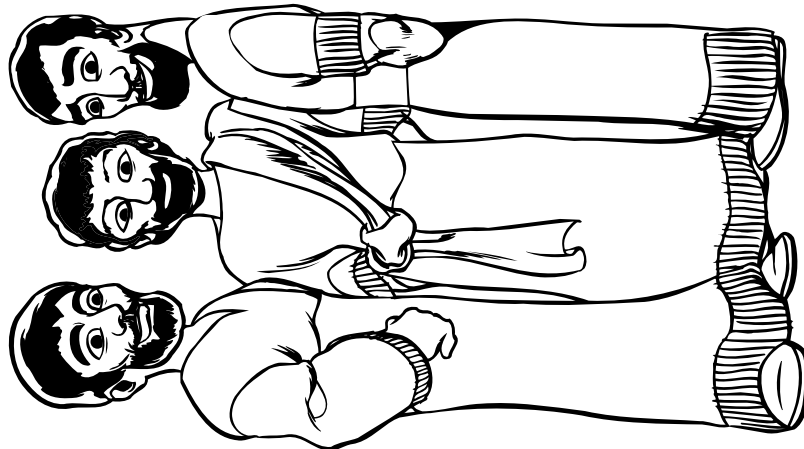
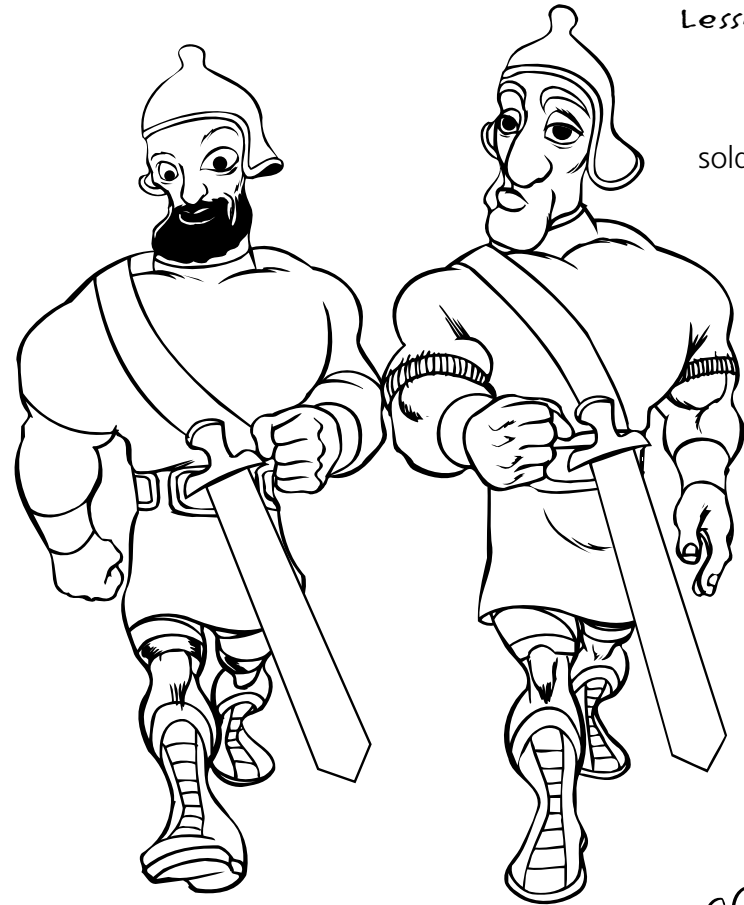
Daniel

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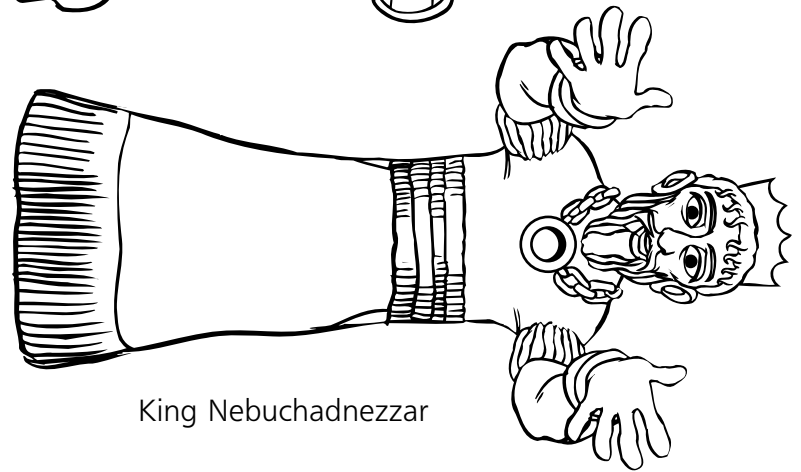
people



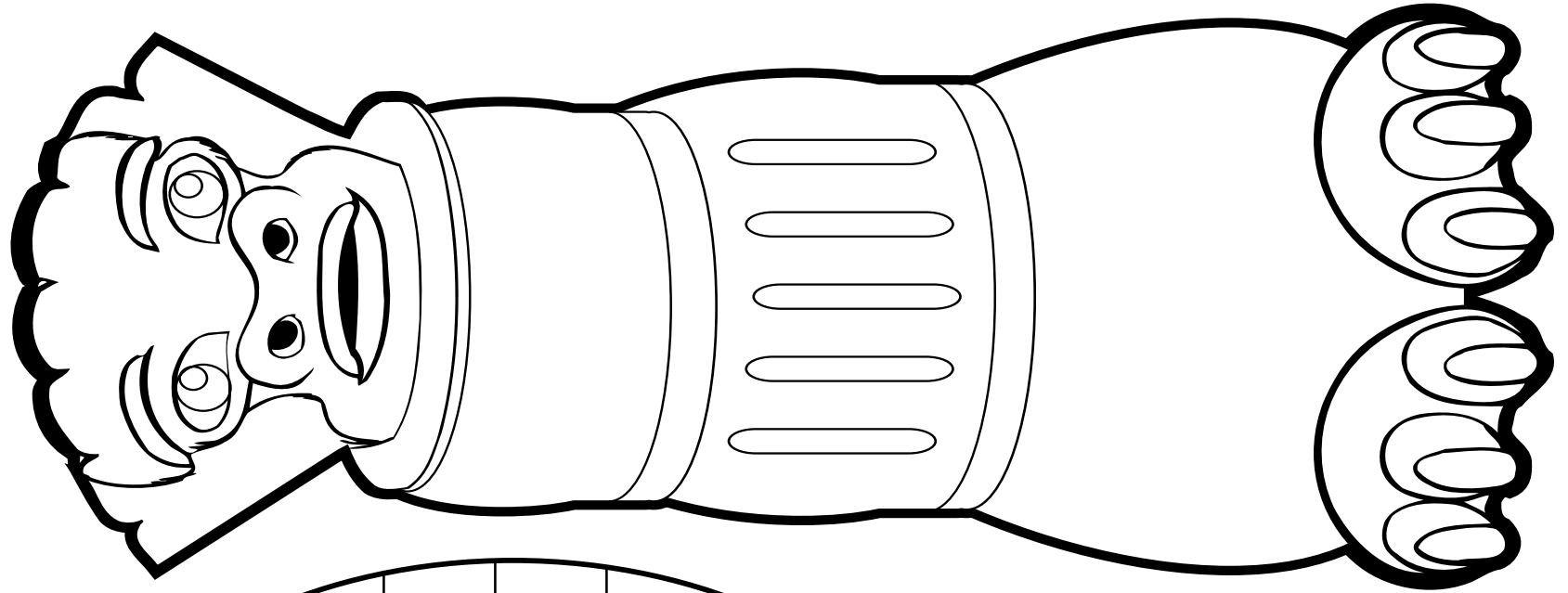
soldiers



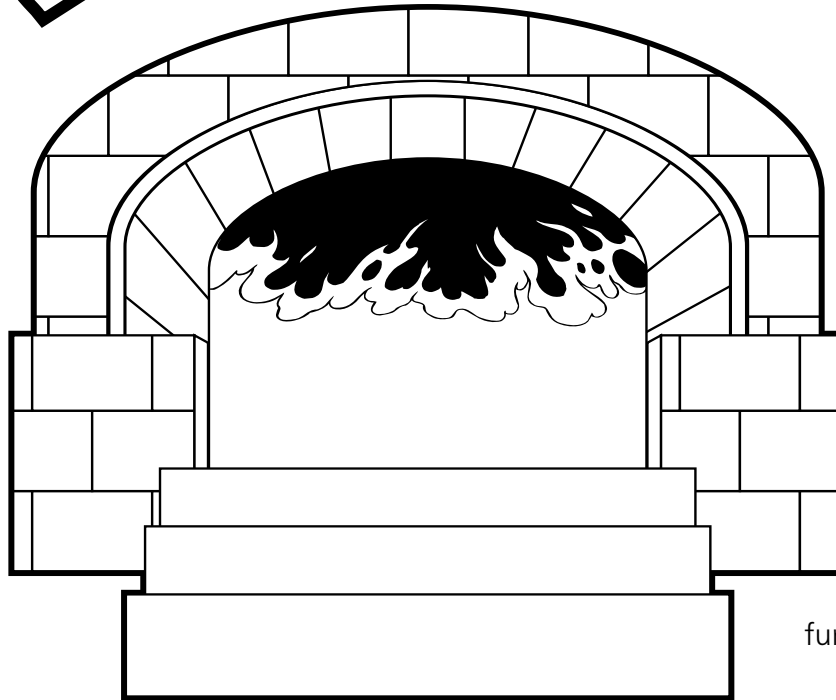
Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego



King Nebuchadnezzar



statue



furnace

feltboard figures

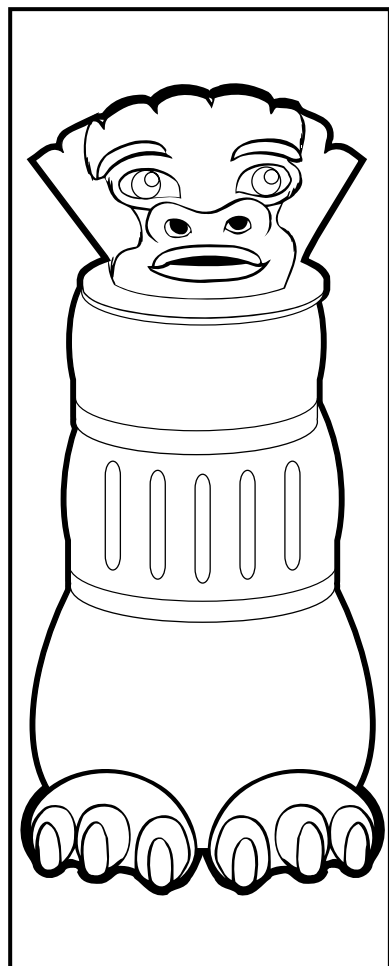
Supplement/Craft

1 copy for each child

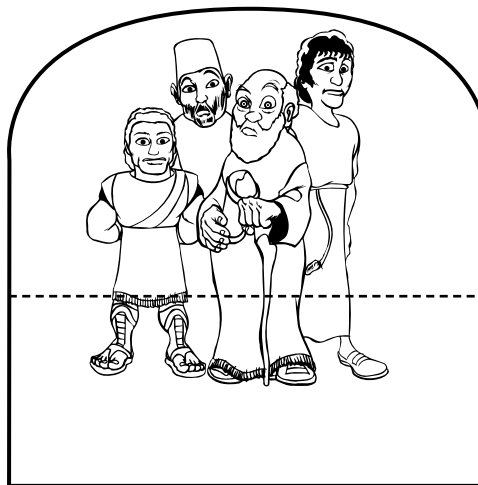
Read-Observe-Describe

Page

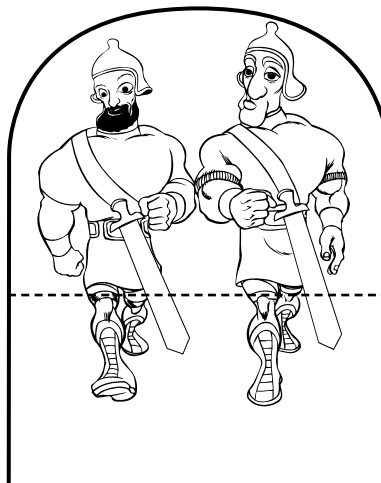
C



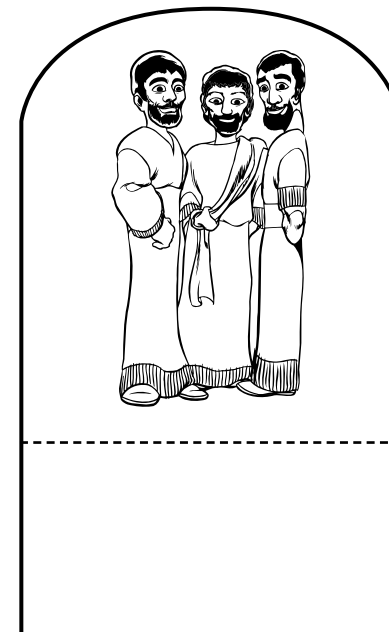
idol



people



soldiers



Israelites