# GOD PROTECTED THREE MEN



### **LEADER BIBLE STUDY**



#### CONTEXT AND COMMENTARY FOR PERSONAL STUDY AND PREPARATION

(For age-appropriate language, use the Bible story on the following pages.)

Obedience to God's Word is always right, but it is not always easy. Sometimes, obedience requires more than simply doing the right thing. It often requires courage, humility, risk, and stepping out of your comfort zone.

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were no strangers to taking a stand for their faith. In Daniel 1, these men, along with Daniel, chose to forego the king's food, eat only vegetables, and drink only water while in their three-year training with King Nebuchadnezzar's men. God rewarded the men for their faithfulness by giving them knowledge and understanding (Daniel 1:17).

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego found themselves in another faith-challenging situation in Daniel 3. King Nebuchadnezzar had issued a decree that everyone must worship a golden statue. When the three men refused to bow down to his statue, Nebuchadnezzar was outraged. He ordered them to bow down or be thrown into a blazing furnace.

These men believed God could rescue them from the furnace, but they also acknowledged they would still follow Him if He did not. God was with Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego when they stood up to Nebuchadnezzar. God was also with them when they were thrown into the fiery furnace. When Nebuchadnezzar looked into the fire, he saw four unbound men walking around instead of the three bound men who were thrown in.

God protected Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. They trusted that God would be with them, even if obedience to Him led to their deaths. God rewarded their faithfulness and saved them from the fire.

Just as God was with Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, He promises to always be with us, too. Just as they faced challenges in their spiritual walks, there will be times when we must choose to take a stand for what we believe.

## TEACHER TIP

Care for, play with, and respond to each baby's needs to help him learn that church is a happy place where he is loved and accepted. Talk and sing about God and Jesus to help him begin to recognize the names. Look at the Bible and tell Bible verses to help babies begin to learn about God's word. Make church a happy place where babies can learn about God and Jesus.

GOD



## LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

God loves me.

#### **LIFE POINT**

God takes care of us.

## SCRIPTURE REFERENCE

Daniel 3

#### **BIBLE VERSE**

God can help us. *Daniel 3:17* 

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