

DANIEL 3 - THE FIERY FURNACE

KIDS' LIFEGROUP GUIDE

WEEK: 11/3/19 - 11/9/19

OVERVIEW:

- **Part 1:** Catch Up On Life (15 Minutes)
- **Part 2:** Kidtown Lesson Review (15 Minutes)
- **Part 3:** Reflection (15 Minutes)
 - Optional - Part 3a: Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)
 - Optional - Part 3b: Snack (5 Minutes)
 - Optional - Part 3c: Sing (5 Minutes)
- **Part 4:** Prayer Time! (20 Minutes)

PART 1: CATCH UP ON LIFE (15 minutes)

Setting: Sit in a circle with kids and adults interspersed! Adults sitting amongst the kids will help everyone engage and pay attention better. Parents - you are always responsible for your kids, but you're also looking to engage with other kids in your group.

- *Leader Note: If your group eats dinner with your kids, this is the best part of the guide to do together while you eat. Add 15 minutes for everyone to get their plates and start eating. Then shift into intentional conversation as the kids are starting to finish their food.*

Vision: God calls the church -- and our LifeGroup -- to be family! Because of this, we want our kids to know our adults and our adults to know our kids. The best way to get to know each other is to ask each other questions and tell each other about our lives.

- *Leader note: While you're getting started, have an adult -- or older kid -- read this vision statement. After you've done it for a while, you can ask kids if they remember why we ask each other questions. Help them to remember that God's making us family, so we want to get to know each other.*

Questions:

- 1.) What was your high and low from the week?
- 2.) **Kids Pick!** Let each kid ask the adults in the group one question.
 - Click [here](#) for a bank of questions for Kids to ask Adults if they're having a hard time thinking of any.
- 3.) **Adults Pick!** Have each adult ask the kids in the group one question.
 - Click [here](#) for a bank of questions for Adults to ask Kids if they're having a hard time thinking of any.

PART 2: KIDTOWN LESSON REVIEW (15 minutes)

Vision: God uses the Bible to show Himself to us. He also uses it to help us love Him and others better. We don't only want to learn *about* the Bible; we're also called to apply it to our lives -- to change the way we think (Head), what we love and value (Heart) and what we do (Hands).

- *Leader note: While you're getting started, have an adult -- or older kid -- read this vision statement. After you've done it for a while, you can ask kids if they remember why we study the Bible.*

Lesson: The Fiery Furnace

Bible Passage: Daniel 3

REVIEW:

- 1.) **Kids what do you remember from the story you learned about on Sunday?** (Pause and let them think of what they can remember.)
- 2.) **Can anyone remember the main characters?**
 - God/Jesus! (*Leader Note: Almost always a right answer. Helps reinforce that the entire Bible is about God and points forward to Jesus*)
 - "The Bros" - Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego
 - "King Nebby" - King Nebuchadnezzar
- 3.) **Ok, does anyone remember any of the story points?**
 - Story Point #1:** The Bros refused to worship the statue.
 - Story Point #2:** King Nebby threatened to kill the Bros if they wouldn't worship.
 - Story Point #3:** The Bros trusted God to deliver them.
 - Story Point #4:** God sent an angel to be with the Bros in the fire and save them.
- 4.) **Awesome! And can anyone remember how this story connected to Jesus?**
 - Christ Connection:** God sent Jesus to be with us in the fire to save us.

Transition: That was awesome! Ya'll did a great job remembering. Ok let's watch the video and see if we remember anything we forgot or notice anything new this time.

WATCH THE VIDEO STORY:

Click [here](#) to watch the Gospel Project Video Story.

TALK THROUGH THE STORY POINTS:

Leader Note: If your kids are younger, it helps to give them journals. For each question, have them write their answers first and then go around the circle and share.

Leader Note: Say each story point and have the kids repeat it.

Story Point #1: The Bros refused to worship the statue.

- Question: What were The Bros' names? (Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego)
- Teach: These days, where we live, there aren't very many actual statues (a.k.a. idols) that we're forced to bow down to. However, that doesn't mean that there aren't other things that we're tempted to love more than God.
- Question: What are things that people love more than God? (Money, sports, other possessions, their jobs, school, etc.)
- Question: What are things that you're tempted to love more than God? (Adults answer first... then let the kids answer.)

Story Point #2: King Nebby threatened to kill the Bros if they wouldn't worship.

- Question: What's King Nebby's real name? (King Nebuchadnezzar)
- Teach: While we aren't being threatened with death, it's still possible that people might put pressure on us to do the wrong things or to worship false gods.
- Question: What's an example from your life of a time that you felt pressure to do the wrong thing? How did you respond? (Adults answer first... then let the kids answer.)

Story Point #3: The Bros trusted God to deliver them.

- Open your Bible! Turn to Daniel 3:16-18 and read the Bros' response to King Nebby.
- Question: Based on what the Bros said, did they know for sure that God was going to save them from the fiery furnace? (No! They said that even if God didn't deliver them from the fiery furnace and out of King Nebby's hand, then they would still not serve his gods or worship the golden image.)
- What's it called when we obey God even when we don't know what's going to happen? (Help them come up with the answer: Trust!)

Story Point #4: God sent an angel to be with the Bros in the fire and save them.

- Teach: How awesome is that?! God doesn't promise to always protect us from all bad circumstances, but He is always able to deliver us. And He promises that someday He will deliver us from all pain and suffering when He brings us home with Him forever.

REVIEW THE CHRIST CONNECTION AND APPLY IT:**Christ Connection:** God sent Jesus to be with us in the fire to save us.

- Adults - How is that good news to you? Where have you seen Jesus help set you free from sin throughout your life?

Main Application(s): God doesn't promise to protect us from all "fire" (pain, suffering), but He does promise to be with us and to save us through it.

- Adults first then Kids - Why is it sometimes hard to believe God is with us in the midst of our pain?
- Adults first then Kids - How can we draw near to God in the midst of our pain?

PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE:

Ask any of the kids if they can remember the key passage. Help lead them through it leaving out words and see if they can fill them in.

Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in everything; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

PART 3: REFLECTION (10 minutes)

Distribute a sheet of paper to each child or tell them to get their journals. Ask the kids to write about or draw a picture to answer the following questions:

- What does this story teach me about God or about the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- What is one thing I need to do in light of this story? (Help the kids think of ways they can grow, how they might pray for help or practical steps of repentance they can take.)

After the kids have had time to write down their reflection questions, go around the circle and share something you wrote down.

OPTIONAL - PART 3a: LESSON ACTIVITY (10 minutes)

Getting Warmer

Hide a small toy or plastic treasure somewhere in the room. Challenge the kids to find the item. Give clues as kids move about the room, saying “getting warmer” or “getting colder” depending on how close to, or far from, the object kids move. As kids get very near to finding the object, use hyperbole such as “you are burning up!” or “you are on fire!” to emphasize how close they are.

Say • Obviously, none of you actually caught fire or were burned by getting close to the hidden toy. In real life, fire can be very dangerous, and being on fire is often deadly. Today we will hear about three men who faced an extremely deadly fire. What do you think happened to them?

OPTIONAL - PART 3b: SNACK (5 minutes)

If your group doesn't eat dinner together, now is a great time to stop for a snack break before spending time praying together and talking about living on mission. For Kidtown we keep snacks simple with Goldfish for most kids and Gummy snacks in case a kid has Gluten allergies.

OPTIONAL - PART 3c: SING (5 minutes)

Play “[Do Not Fear](#)” by Seeds Family Worship and sing and dance along.

PART 4: PRAYER TIME! (20 minutes)

PRAY FOR EACH OTHER: (10 minutes)

Vision: God calls His people to love each other, pray for each other and help each other carry burdens.

Questions to Ask (pick 1):

- How do you need prayer this week?
- What is one thing you need Jesus to help you with this week?
- What is one way you're hoping Jesus will help you grow this week?

Pray: Invite each kid to write down the other kids' prayer requests. Then have each kid pray for the person on their right!

PRAY FOR JESUS' MISSION: (10 minutes)

Vision: God calls His people to share with others the good news of Jesus. This means that we try to love others with our actions and with our words. We want all our friends to know about Jesus and His great love for them.

Questions to Ask (pick 1):

- What friends or neighbors of yours can we pray for today?
- How can you show God's love this week to someone who might not know Him?
- Who could we invite to do something fun with our LifeGroup friends this month?

Pray: Invite each kid to pray for their friends or someone else's friend to come to know Jesus. Have one adult close out the time, thanking God for how we get to be family together and asking God to bring more people into His family!