



PORTRAITS

Group Guide



Daniel 3:19-26

19 Then Nebuchadnezzar was furious with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, and his attitude toward them changed. He ordered the furnace heated seven times hotter than usual 20 and commanded some of the strongest soldiers in his army to tie up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and throw them into the blazing furnace. 21 So these men, wearing their robes, trousers, turbans and other clothes, were bound and thrown into the blazing furnace. 22 The king's command was so urgent and the furnace so hot that the flames of the fire killed the soldiers who took up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, 23 and these three men, firmly tied, fell into the blazing furnace. 24 Then King Nebuchadnezzar leaped to his feet in amazement and asked his advisers, "Weren't there three men that we tied up and threw into the fire?" They replied, "Certainly, Your Majesty." 25 He said, "Look! I see four men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and the fourth looks like a son of the gods." 26 Nebuchadnezzar then approached the opening of the blazing furnace and shouted, "Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!"

Shadrach, Meshach, & Abednego // July 7, 2024

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were able to hold their courage and conviction to worship and serve only the true God in the face of almost certain death. "The God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and he will deliver us from Your Majesty's hand. But even if he does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up", was their response. Lyndon identified 4 things that would have helped them come to this conclusion and hold to it.

1. They had seen God act in the past.
2. They knew the cost of disobedience
3. They knew the end of the story
4. They had each other.

As an exercise in helping us grow in our ability to hold fast to God in difficult times where we are asking for his intervention, take some time and talk through the following 4 questions. Consider how your answers might help you stand firm.

1. Where have you seen God at work in the past?
2. Is there any place where disobedience is having an effect on your perspective or God's intervention in your situation?
3. Have you read the ending? - (Revelation 21:1-4)
4. Who do you have around you to help you stand? How can having others around me help me stand firm? What might I have to do in order to allow others to help me.

One of Lyndon's final points was "We may not experience the great and grand displays of his power, but we have experienced a great and grand display of his Love..."

- 1, How does what Jesus did on the cross help me get to the place where I can say "Even if he doesn't?"
2. What can I do to not become numb to the incredible demonstration of Love that is represented in the cross and empty tomb?





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[LEADERS NOTES]

RESOURCES TO HELP YOU FOLLOW JESUS

- centralheights.ca/followjesus

STORIES

- We love hearing how God moves in people's lives. If you or anyone in your group has a story and would be willing to share, we'd love to hear it and celebrate with you. You can share your story by emailing stories@centralheights.ca

MESSAGE Video and Audio can be found at:

<https://www.centralheights.ca/currentseries>