

ALLEY SG – October 21- 23, 2023

Today's Bible Story: We Didn't Start the Fire (Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego)

• *Daniel 3*

Today's Key Question: When has someone helped you see God?

Today's Bottom Line: When you do what's right, others can see God.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Anyone who lives without blame walks safely. But anyone who takes a crooked path will get caught.* Proverbs 10:9 (NIRV)

1. Bible Story Extension

Bible Story Review

What You Need: Bible, "Rearview Mirror" Face Cards (1-2 sets of cards per group)

What You Do:

- Look up Daniel 3 in your Bible.
- Ask kids to share their favorite part or something new they learned from today's story.
- Have one kid draw one card from the pile of cards from the "Rearview Mirror" Activity Page.
- Have him/her use their face to show the emotion on the card.
- Invite the rest of the kids to guess the emotion he/she is expressing.
- Ask the group: "When could that expression/feeling have occurred in the Bible story we read today?"
 - Answers can be anything kids reflect on from the story, but some possibilities are:
 - Scared/concerned—facing the angry king or the fiery furnace
 - Surprised—not being harmed by the furnace
 - Happy/relieved/grateful—surviving the furnace; the king praising them
 - Sad—the fire burning the soldiers who tied them up
 - Proud—the king when almost everyone bowed down to the statue
 - Confused—there was someone else in the fire
 - Confident—standing up to the king
- Continue until all of the cards have been chosen.
- After all of the cards have been expressed, ask:
 - What do you admire most about Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego? How did you see God in them?
 - In what ways do you relate to Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego? How are they different from you?
 - What are some ways they showed God to others that you can too?
 - What are some things you may someday have to stand up for or against? If God didn't rescue you from that situation, how might it affect your faith?
- Say: "When we choose to do what's right, others can see God at work. It all starts with following Jesus then choosing to let Him help you do what's right."

2. Take a Snapshot

Application Activity

What You Need: Nothing

What You Do:

- Ask all of the kids to stand in one large circle.
- One at a time, read one of the Integrity Circle Scenarios below.
- After you do, instruct the kids to take a step forward into the circle if they've been in a similar situation or know someone who has.
- Ask the following questions to the kids who stepped forward. If no kids stepped forward after you read the scenario, invite anyone in the group to answer the questions.
 - At what point did the person in this scenario need to make a decision about whether they were going to do what was right or not?
 - If the person in the scenario made a good choice and did what was right, how did their actions help someone see God?
 - If the person in the scenario made the wrong choice, how could they fix it?
- Integrity Circle Scenarios:
 - Josie decided she was going to copy her friend's homework instead of doing it on her own, so she didn't even bring her book home.
 - José's little brother picked up a cookie from the floor. He watched him eat it, knowing the dog had licked it.
 - Jack broke his mom's phone when he dropped it on the ground. No one saw him do it. He thought about putting it back on the counter and acting like nothing happened, but instead, he went straight to his mom and told her what happened.
 - Sharice used up all her screen time watching a movie over the weekend. She overheard her mom giving the passcode to another family member and decided to approve more time for herself without requesting it from her mom.
 - Lydia was playing soccer when she accidentally touched the ball with her hand right before she scored a goal, which meant her team would lose the game. The referee didn't see it, so he gave Lydia's team a point. Lydia wanted to keep the goal so her team could win, but she knew what she needed to do. So she went to the ref and told him the truth.
- Invite kids to share stories of their own about times when they've seen God through the actions of someone who did the right thing even when it was hard.
- Ask, "When do you think you have helped others see God?"

3. Discussion Questions

Ask:

- Share a story about someone in your life who has helped you see God by making wise choices.
- When it comes to making the wise choice, what would you say are some of the most important choices kids make? What can you do to make sure you make those choices well so you can help others see God?
- The integrity of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego impacted Nebuchadnezzar and his whole kingdom. How might your life impact those around you this week?

4. Memory Verse Roll

What You Need: a soft ball (one per group)

What You Do:

- Guide kids to sit in a large circle.
- Invite a volunteer to recite the monthly memory verse, then say it a few times together. “*Anyone who lives without blame walks away safely. But anyone who takes a crooked path will get caught.*” Proverbs 10:9 (NIRV)
- Give one kid the ball.
- Lead kids to say the verse word by word (with help as needed) as they pass to ball to the person next to them. Play a few times, getting faster each time.
- Try it again, but instead of passing the ball, roll the ball to someone across the circle saying one word of the verse at a time.
- Play as time allows, encouraging kids to say the verse faster each round.

5. Pray

- “Dear God, thank You for the people in the Bible who help us see You. Thank You for the people in our life today who also help us see You. We know that we can do that, too. When we choose to act and speak in ways that please You, it affects those around us just like one falling domino affects all the others around it. When we struggle with being honest this week, help us remember to ask You for help. You promise to give us what we need to always stand strong and trust You. We love You. Amen.”

PARENT PICK UP POINT: As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to name one way they can live with integrity.