

CITY LG – October 21- 23, 2023

Today's Bible Story: We Didn't Start the Fire (Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego) • *Daniel 3*

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

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

SUPPLIES NEEDED: Carpet tape and circular pool floats (one per small group)

WORSHIP

No Pressure
Shine a Light

Have kids get into their small groups Before you start Large Groups

SLIDE: Theme

Hi, everybody! It's so great to see all of you here today. Can anybody raise your hand and tell me what we've been talking about this month? *(Pause for response.)* That's right! We're finding out how we can live with integrity.

SLIDE: Virtue

Integrity is choosing to be truthful in whatever you say and do.

SLIDE: Theme

God made us to act with integrity—to be the same on the inside as we are on the outside. Our relationship with God is what DRIVES us to be truthful with all of our words and actions.

I've got a fun racing game for us to play today. I'll pick one person from each small group. Raise your hand if you want to play.

Bring up one kid from each small group.

We're about to see if you can roll some tires across the room! Okay, friends, you can stand on this side of the room behind the tape line. I'll give everyone a *(air quotes)* 'tire'. *(Hold up one of the circular pool floats.)*

The tires have to touch the floor at all times, and the only way to move them is to roll them. One hand needs to be on the tire at all times. Your goal is to roll the tires across the finish line.

Demonstrate so the kids see what to do.

Racers, are you ready? Start your engines . . . and . . . GO!

AUDIO: Fun music ("Route 66" by Chuck Berry)

That was really fun! Nice rolling, everyone. If I ever have to change a tire, I know I can just call you to help me out.

We have another great story of integrity to look at in the Bible, in the book of Daniel. (*Hold up Bible*) As we read God's Big Story in the Bible, we can see how God had a plan to bless the whole world through one family: the Israelites. But over and over, the Israelites kept turning away from God. Eventually, they were conquered by the Babylonians, who were led by a king named Nebuchadnezzar. The king chose several young Israelite men to serve in his court, including Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Let's see what happens...

VIDEO: Bible Story

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego did what they knew was right. They didn't follow the king's command to bow to the statue. God rescued Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego from the fiery furnace. And because of it, everyone could see God's power in a BIG way!

You see, when we choose to do what's right, people around us can see how God is working in our lives. If we're facing something tough, but we still make the wise choice, other people will notice! So it's really important that we live each day with integrity. Stand up...

VIDEO: Bottom Line

SLIDE: Bottom Line

When you do what's right, others can see God.

If you're ever feeling unsure about what the right thing might be, think about Jesus. Think about what HE said was most important: loving God and loving other people.

We have a memory verse this month that will help us remember what integrity is all about. It's Proverbs 10:9.

SLIDE: Memory Verse

Anyone who lives without blame walks safely. But anyone who takes a crooked path will get caught.
(Proverbs 10:9, NIV)

Jesus lived with integrity, even when things got really difficult, and even when it cost Him something. Even when it meant He would die on the cross. When we do our best to live like Jesus and share His love, we show the world what God is like.

Let's choose to live truthfully and do what's right everywhere we go. Who knows? Maybe that will help someone else see how much God loves them! Let's pray and ask God to help us with that.

SLIDE: Theme

Dear God, thank You for giving Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego the integrity and courage to follow You and You alone. Help us have that same kind of integrity, too. We want our words and actions to show Your love, so that other people can see what You're like and how You've made a difference in our lives. Help us do what's right so that other people can see and know You. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

OFFERING:

Until the end of 2023, our offering money will go to families in Kenya. We are working with an organization called Missions of Hope. As you can see in these pictures, this is an area in Kenya called Turkana that is very rural and the people who live there do not have much money for food.

SLIDES: Kenya 1-4

The food baskets will be such a blessing to the children and families in this community! If you have any offering you can bring it up now.