

CITY SG – 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)

1. Red Light/Green Light Review

Bible Story Review

What You Need: Carpet Tape

What You Do:

- Have the kids line up shoulder to shoulder on one side of your area and place a tape line on the other side.
- Play a game of red light/green light. When you say "green light," kids will run until you say "red light." They should stop in place.
- If anyone is still running after you say, Red Light, they should start over at the beginning.
- Each time you stop them by saying "red light", ask a review question from the list below.
- Play until someone crosses the line.
- Go back and play more rounds until all of the questions are answered or until time allows.
- You can have the kids get to the other side in different ways each round: crawling, hopping, walking backwards, etc.

Review Questions:

- What did King Nebuchadnezzar do? *(He had a golden statue built.)*
- What was the rule that the messenger read to all the people gathered around the statue? *(Everyone must bow down and worship the statue when they heard the music play.)*
- How did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego respond to this rule? *(They refused to bow down to a statue made by human hands.)*
- What was the punishment for NOT bowing down to this statue? *(be thrown in a fiery furnace)*
- What did the officials do when they saw that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego weren't following the rule? *(They tattled on them to the king.)*
- How did the king respond when he found out they refused to worship the statue? *(He was furious! He ordered them to be thrown in the fiery furnace.)*
- Call on a volunteer to look up and read Daniel 3:16-18. What did the three men say to the king? *(God has the power to deliver us. But even if God doesn't, we'll STILL do the right thing, we still won't bow down to your statue.)*
- When they said this, it made King Nebuchadnezzar even angrier. What did he do? *(He ordered that the furnace be heated SEVEN times hotter. He ordered his strongest soldiers to tie the three men up and throw them into the furnace.)*
- What happened to Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego? *(They came walking out of the fiery furnace, not a hair was singed, they were unharmed.)*
- What did King Neb say once the three men came out of the fire unharmed? *(King Neb said that their God was the One True God.)*

2. Pass It on Memory Verse

Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Bibles

What You Do:

- Depending on the age/ability of your group, you can either:
 - Give each child a Bible and look up the memory verse together.
 - Read the memory verse from a Bible aloud to your group.
- Direct the kids to stand in a circle and place their hands out to their sides, palms up, one hand on top of the other of the kid next to them.
- Start the verse by saying the first word and (lightly) slap the right hand of the kid to your left.
- Instruct that kid to say the next word of the verse and (lightly) slap the right hand of the kid on their left.
- Continue in the same way, with each kid repeating the next word of the verse and passing the gentle slap around the circle.
- Repeat the verse as often as time and interest allow.
- Say, “When it comes to integrity, we can think about a crooked or straight path. Would you rather walk along an unsafe path, full of potholes and scary twists and turns or along a smooth and straight, perfectly paved path?”
- Say, “Our verse reminds us that when you live a life of integrity—when you’re truthful in whatever you say and do—it’s like you’re walking along a safe path.”

3. What If I Do, What if I Don’t?

Application Activity

What You Need: Floor tape

What You Do:

- Tape a line down the center of your Small Group area.
- Instruct the kids to line up single file on the tape line, facing you.
- When you say “Go,” direct the kids to jump from one side of the line to other.
 - They can jump in either direction and as fast or as slow as they want.
- After a few seconds of jumping, call for the kids to “Freeze!”
- Make sure the kids are on one side of the tape or the other.
 - If a kid is standing on the tape, direct them to choose a side.
- Read a scenario from the list below.
- Call on a kid on the left side of the tape and ask, “What might happen next in this scenario if you DO show integrity?”
- Let them give an answer.
- Call on a kid to the right side of the tape and ask, “What might happen next in this scenario if you DON’T show integrity?”
- Let them give an answer.
- After talking through a scenario, direct the kids to hop from side to side then freeze!
- Repeat in the same way until you’ve discussed all the scenarios below.

- Integrity Scenarios:
 - You notice your friend's favorite, brand-new mechanical pencil has fallen off their desk.
 - You left your bike in the driveway. When your dad comes in, you can tell he's frustrated that you didn't put it away.
 - You see a kid who's left out at recess. All the other kids are saying mean things about them.
 - You're watching TV and have the remote in your hand. You promised your little brother he could pick the next show.
 - You paid for a book at the book fair and were given back too much change.
 - You accidentally came home from ball practice with a teammate's brand-new pair of batting gloves. They're WAY cooler than the gloves you have.
- Say, "When we try to live like Jesus and live with integrity, we can show God's love to others."

4. Extra Time Activity

What You Need: "Hidden Pictures" Page (1 per student), Leader Key Page (1 per group), pens

What You Do:

- Give each kid a "Hidden Pictures" Activity Page and pen.
- Point out the key along the bottom of the "Hidden Pictures" Activity Page with the list of things to find hidden in the picture.

5. Pray

- "Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to make a way for us to have a relationship with You—forever! Please remind us that we don't have to try to do the right thing on our own. Help us know that You are with us, that Your Holy Spirit will guide and help us be truthful with our words and actions. We want everyone around us to know how much You love them. Help us show them Your love this week. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

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