

Lesson 10 Student Page

The Three Men in the Fiery Furnace

(Daniel 3)

- ① Does your identity as a Christian ever seem to be a burden or a threat? Is there anything about being a Christian that you would be afraid to tell others? Is there any kind of ridicule, temptation, or persecution that you are afraid you will have to face someday as a Christian? How would you respond in facing this?
- ② Our pressures and temptations are surely real. Yet think about who Nebuchadnezzar was, the influence and authority he exercised, and the pressure that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego felt in this particular situation. Look especially at verses 1–7. Work together to describe what this was like, and discuss what temptations were facing the three young men. Oh, and does anybody know what a trigon is?
- ③ How do Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego respond to Nebuchadnezzar? What is at stake? From a secular perspective, how likely is it that Nebuchadnezzar will listen to what they say?
- ④ How does Nebuchadnezzar react to the men's confession? How does God bring about His good and gracious will, stopping the violence and affirming life? What is the condition of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego after being cast into the furnace?
- ⑤ Who is this fourth man whom Nebuchadnezzar sees in the furnace? What does this man's presence teach us about our own situations of temptation and peril?
- ⑥ What does this account of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego tell us about God's work in situations of our own temptations and persecutions? What is our fundamental and ultimate hope?

Lesson 10 Student Page

Through the Week

Family Connections

If you have children in Sunday School, go over their leaflets together, sharing with one another what you learned about today's Bible story.

Learn by heart the First Commandment and its meaning, or review it if you already know it. Point out to your family that worship of God means these specific things: to fear Him, love Him, and trust in Him above all things. This may be difficult, even in the face of physical harm or death, but it points to the truth that God rules over not just the world but also over our eternal destiny.

Personal Reflection

Spend time considering the things in your life that you really fear. Are there people whom you fear because of the control they have over you?

What about fearful situations? Confess your fears to God and be assured by the Gospel, which promises that Christ loves you and cares for you through all of these fears.