



WEEK ONE - JULY 2018 - SECOND/THIRD

Bible Story: *These Guys Aren't on Fire • Daniel 3*

Bottom Line: *Trust that God is always with you.*

Memory Verse: *"Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." - Philippians 1:6 NIV*

Life App: *Confidence - Living like you believe what God says is true.*

Basic Truth: *I can trust God no matter what.*

Summary: In July, we continue our discovery of confidence with an incredible example found in Daniel 3. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego found their faith put to the test when they chose to obey God rather than bow down to the golden statue. They remained confident in God's power, and God rescued them from the fiery furnace.

8:50-9:00 | 10:20-10:30 | 11:50-12:00 - EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITIES

1. Early Arriver Idea

Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing/building/designing

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Ask:
 - Do you have a toy or animal you like to keep with you?
 - Where are some of the crazy places you have taken it?

2. Chain of Events

Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing/building/designing

What You Need: Strips of paper; tape; markers

What You Do:

- Split your group into two teams.
- Provide each team with markers to share and 15 slips of paper.
- Explain that each team will be coming up with things they can trust will always happen in the world, such as:
 - The sun will always rise.
 - The sun will always set.
 - Fish will always swim in water.
 - Stars will always shine.
 - Pigs will always oink.
- Instruct them to write each idea down on a slip of paper.
- Explain that they will be creating a big long chain with their slips of paper.
- Display to your group how to tape one end of their paper to the other end to form a circle.

- Then show the group how you can put another slip of paper through the center of that circle, and tape the ends together to form the beginning of a chain.
- Encourage them to loop each strip of paper through the other circles to create a long chain of events.
- Allow each team to present all of their crazy ideas to the group.

What You Say:

"You know, real chains are strong and tough. We can almost always trust that they won't break, just like we can trust some of the things we thought of will always happen!"

[Transition] Today in Large Group, we are going to learn about something else we can always count on happening!"

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

9:10-9:45 | 10:40-11:15 | 12:10-12:45 - LARGE GROUP

OVERVIEW:

Bottom Line: *Trust that God is always with you. "Not only has God been faithful to Shadrach, Meschach and Abednego, but also God has proven his faithfulness to all sorts of people throughout history. We can live with confidence knowing that God will be with us in every situation we face.*

9:45-10:05 | 11:15-11:35 | 12:45-1:05 SMALL GROUP

1. Flip Cup

[Bible Story Review]

Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines & working as a group

What You Need: Plastic Cups

What You Do:

- Divide your few into two teams. Name one "Team Nebuchadnezzar" and the other "Team God."
- Spread out the plastic cups all over the area you are playing in.
- Team Nebuchadnezzar's goal is to flip all of the cups down like they are bowing down to the statue in our story. Team God's goal is to flip all of the cups up, like they are standing up for what they believe in.
- Explain that you will be counting to 10 each time and then making both teams "freeze." The team of your choice must answer a review question from below.
- After asking five questions, play another round and have teams switch roles so they both get turns being the "good guys."
- The team with the most cups in their direction at the end wins!
- Review Questions:
 - Who were the three main characters from our story who ended up in a fiery furnace? (Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego)
 - Who was the King of Babylon? (King Nebuchadnezzar)
 - What did King Nebuchadnezzar want built for him? (a golden statue)
 - When music was played, what was everyone supposed to do? (bow down to the statue)
 - If people chose not to bow, what was their punishment? (be thrown into the fiery furnace)
 - When the music was played, what did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego choose to do? (not bow down)
 - What happened because of the choice they made? (they were thrown into the furnace)
 - What happened when they were thrown into the fiery furnace? (God protected them and they were unharmed)
 - How many men did the king see in the furnace? (Four)
 - What did the king tell everyone after seeing what God had done? (To never talk bad about God)

What You Say:

"You were really getting competitive with our flip cup game! What a fun way to review our story. Could you imagine being in Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego's shoes? Have you ever needed to show confidence and stand up for what you believed in? (Allow time for kids to respond.) [Make It Personal] (Share a personal story from a time you were confident

and stood up for what you believed in.) Remember, no matter who you are facing or what you are facing, you can [Bottom Line] trust that God is always with you."

2. Fiery Furnace

[Application Activity]

Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing/building/designing

What You Need: "Fiery Furnace" Activity Pages; scissors; markers

What You Do:

- Provide each kid with an Activity Page.
- Instruct them to cut out the trifold on the dotted lines and then color the fiery furnace and the three men inside it.
- Then ask kids to think about a time when they faced something difficult, such as learning something really hard at school, trying out for a sports team, performing in an instrumental recital or concert, standing up for someone who was being made fun of, etc.
- When they finish drawing, encourage them to fold the paper toward the middle on the solid lines, so their drawing is now on the inside of the folds.
- Point out that no matter which drawing is showing on their page, the "extra" person can still be seen.
- Tell kids that the figure represents how God is with them just like He was with Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.

What You Say:

"Do you see in our picture that God is with you just like He is with Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego? There is nothing you will ever walk through where God will not be right by your side! Have you ever been in a situation and trusted that God was with you? (Allow time for kids to share stories.) "Those are all awesome stories! Just like you trusted God in those times, you can [Bottom Line] trust that God is always with you."

3. Pray and Dismiss

[Prayer Activity]

Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Ask your few if they have any awesome plans for this week.
- Ask them where they hope God will help them this week.
- Invite them to share ideas for having confidence that God is with them.

What You Say:

*"Dear God, I thank You for the promise You have given us that we can **[Bottom Line] trust that God is always with you.** I pray that whatever we are walking through this week, that we never forget this truth. Help us to be confident not in our own selves but in the mighty God You are. Thank You for how I know You will be a present help to us this week, all for Your glory! In Jesus' name, amen."*

*As adults arrive to pick up, have each kid show their parent their fiery furnace picture. Prompt them to share that they can **[Bottom Line] trust that God is always with you.***