

Setting the Table

The Fiery Furnace

Daniel 3

Open It

1. If an artist were to sculpt a representation of you, what special instructions would you give him or her?
2. What spectacular fireworks display stands out in your memory?
3. If a fire were to start in your home, what would be your plan of action?

Explore It

1. What did King Nebuchadnezzar make? (3:1)
2. Whom did he invite to the dedication ceremony? (3:2-3)
3. What were the people commanded to do? (3:4-5)
4. What warning did the herald give? (3:6)
5. What happened when the music began? (3:7)
6. Why did the astrologers complain to the king about the Jews? (3:12)
7. What did the king do about the complaint? (3:13-15)
8. How did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego respond to the king? (3:16-18)
9. What did the king order his men to do? (3:19-21)
10. What happened to the king's soldiers? (3:22)
11. What happened to the three men? (3:23)
12. Why was the king amazed? (3:24-25)
13. What did the crowd observe when the men came out of the fire? (3:26-27)
14. How did the king respond to God's deliverance of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego? (3:28-30)

Get It

1. How are we tempted to glorify national symbols?
2. If someone in authority over you told you to do something wrong, how would you respond?
3. How do you distinguish God's authority from those in authority around you?
4. If you had a great deal of power over others, how might you be tempted to abuse it?
5. What would make you confident or afraid if your safety were threatened because of your faith in God?
6. If God chose not to rescue you from intense personal suffering, how would this affect your faith?
7. In what area of your life is it most difficult for you to stand by your Christian beliefs?
8. How has hardship strengthened your walk with the Lord?

Apply It

1. What are you willing to risk in order to obey God's clear commands?
2. How can you help someone in your community of faith who is going through difficult circumstances?