

GOD PROTECTS DANIEL'S FRIENDS

Daniel 3:1-30

Daniel 3

¹King Nebuchadnezzar made an image of gold, ninety feet high and nine feet wide, and set it up on the plain of Dura in the province of Babylon. ²He then summoned the satraps, prefects, governors, advisers, treasurers, judges, magistrates and all the other provincial officials to come to the dedication of the image he had set up. ³So the satraps, prefects, governors, advisers, treasurers, judges, magistrates and all the other provincial officials assembled for the dedication of the image that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up, and they stood before it.

⁴Then the herald loudly proclaimed, "This is what you are commanded to do, O peoples, nations and men of every language: ⁵As soon as you hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipes and all kinds of music, you must fall down and worship the image of gold that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up. ⁶Whoever does not fall down and worship will immediately be thrown into a blazing furnace."

⁷Therefore, as soon as they heard the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp and all kinds of music, all the peoples, nations and men of every language fell down and worshiped the image of gold that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

⁸At this time some astrologers came forward and denounced the Jews. ⁹They said to King Nebuchadnezzar, "O king, live forever! ¹⁰You have issued a decree, O king, that everyone who hears the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipes and all kinds of music must fall down and worship the image of gold, ¹¹and that whoever does not fall down and worship will be thrown into a blazing furnace. ¹²But there are some Jews whom you have set over the affairs of the province of Babylon—Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego—who pay no attention to you, O king. They neither serve your gods nor worship the image of gold you have set up."

¹³Furious with rage, Nebuchadnezzar summoned Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. So these men were brought before the king, ¹⁴and Nebuchadnezzar said to them, "Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the image of gold I have set up? ¹⁵Now when you hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipes and all kinds of music, if you are ready to fall down and worship the image I made, very good. But if you do not worship it, you will be thrown immediately into a blazing furnace. Then what god will be able to rescue you from my hand?"

¹⁶Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter. ¹⁷If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to save us from it, and he will rescue us from your hand, O king. ¹⁸But even if he does

not, we want you to know, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up."

¹⁹Then Nebuchadnezzar was furious with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, and his attitude toward them changed. He ordered the furnace heated seven times hotter than usual ²⁰and commanded some of the strongest soldiers in his army to tie up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and throw them into the blazing furnace. ²¹So these men, wearing their robes, trousers, turbans and other clothes, were bound and thrown into the blazing furnace. ²²The king's command was so urgent and the furnace so hot that the flames of the fire killed the soldiers who took up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, ²³and these three men, firmly tied, fell into the blazing furnace.

²⁴Then King Nebuchadnezzar leaped to his feet in amazement and asked his advisers, "Weren't there three men that we tied up and threw into the fire?"

They replied, "Certainly, O king."

²⁵He said, "Look! I see four men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and the fourth looks like a son of the gods."

²⁶Nebuchadnezzar then approached the opening of the blazing furnace and shouted, "Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!"

So Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego came out of the fire, ²⁷and the satraps, prefects, governors and royal advisers crowded around them. They saw that the fire had not harmed their bodies, nor was a hair of their heads singed; their robes were not scorched, and there was no smell of fire on them.

²⁸Then Nebuchadnezzar said, "Praise be to the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who has sent his angel and rescued his servants! They trusted in him and defied the king's command and were willing to give up their lives rather than serve or worship any god except their own God. ²⁹Therefore I decree that the people of any nation or language who say anything against the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego be cut into pieces and their houses be turned into piles of rubble, for no other god can save in this way."

³⁰Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the province of Babylon.

GOD PROTECTS DANIEL'S FRIENDS

Daniel 3:1-30

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	QUESTIONS
5		1.) What did the king order the people to do when they heard music?
5		2.) Why didn't Daniel's three friends bow down to the image of gold?
5		3.) What happened to Daniel's friends?
5		4.) Why do you think God protected Daniel's friends?

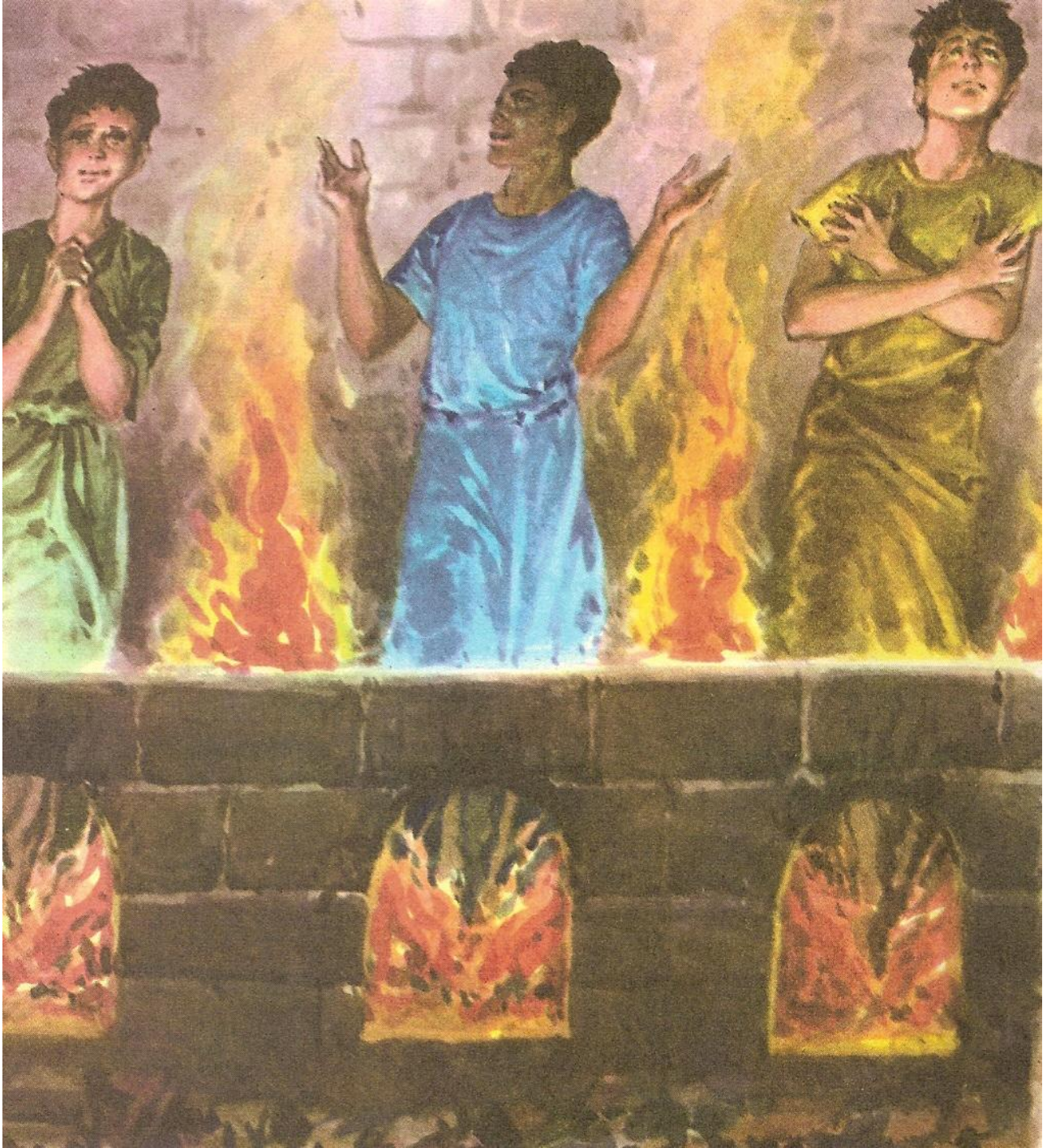
POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	MEMORY VERSE
10		<p>“Deliver me from my enemies, O God; protect me from those who rise up against me.”</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Psalm 59:1</p>

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	HOME CONNECTION	PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE
5		<i>I have read, or been read, the passage of scripture for this week.</i>	
5		<i>I have answered the questions aloud to an adult at home this week.</i>	
10		<i>I have recited the memory verse out loud to an adult at home this week.</i>	

TOTAL POINTS	CLUB CONNECTION
	<p>LEADER'S SIGNATURE _____ DATE ____/____/____</p>

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Daniel 3:1-30



Picture from *The Children's Bible* Golden Press: Copyright © 1965.

GOD PROTECTS DANIEL'S FRIENDS

Daniel 3:1-30



Daniel's friends are safe in the fiery furnace

GOD PROTECTS DANIEL'S FRIENDS

Daniel 3:1-30

CRAFT/ACTIVITY: FURNACE SCENES

Students will make a furnace scene to remind them that Daniel's friends were protected by God when they were thrown into a fiery furnace.

MATERIALS

1. Black Construction Paper
2. Furnace Patterns (two pages)
3. Crayons, Markers, or Colored Pencils
4. Scissors
5. Glue



DIRECTIONS

1. Make copies of the furnace patterns for each student.
2. Have students color the figures with crayons, markers, or colored pencils.
3. Have students cut out the pieces and glue them as seen above on black construction paper.

FOR DISCUSSION

As students are working on their furnace scenes, remind them that King Nebuchadnezzar originally wanted the people to bow down to his ninety foot high gold image. After seeing how God protected Daniel's friends, he ordered that the people could say nothing against God. What a change! When people see the power of God, great changes can occur.

TIME NEEDED TO COMPLETE:

Approximately 20 minutes

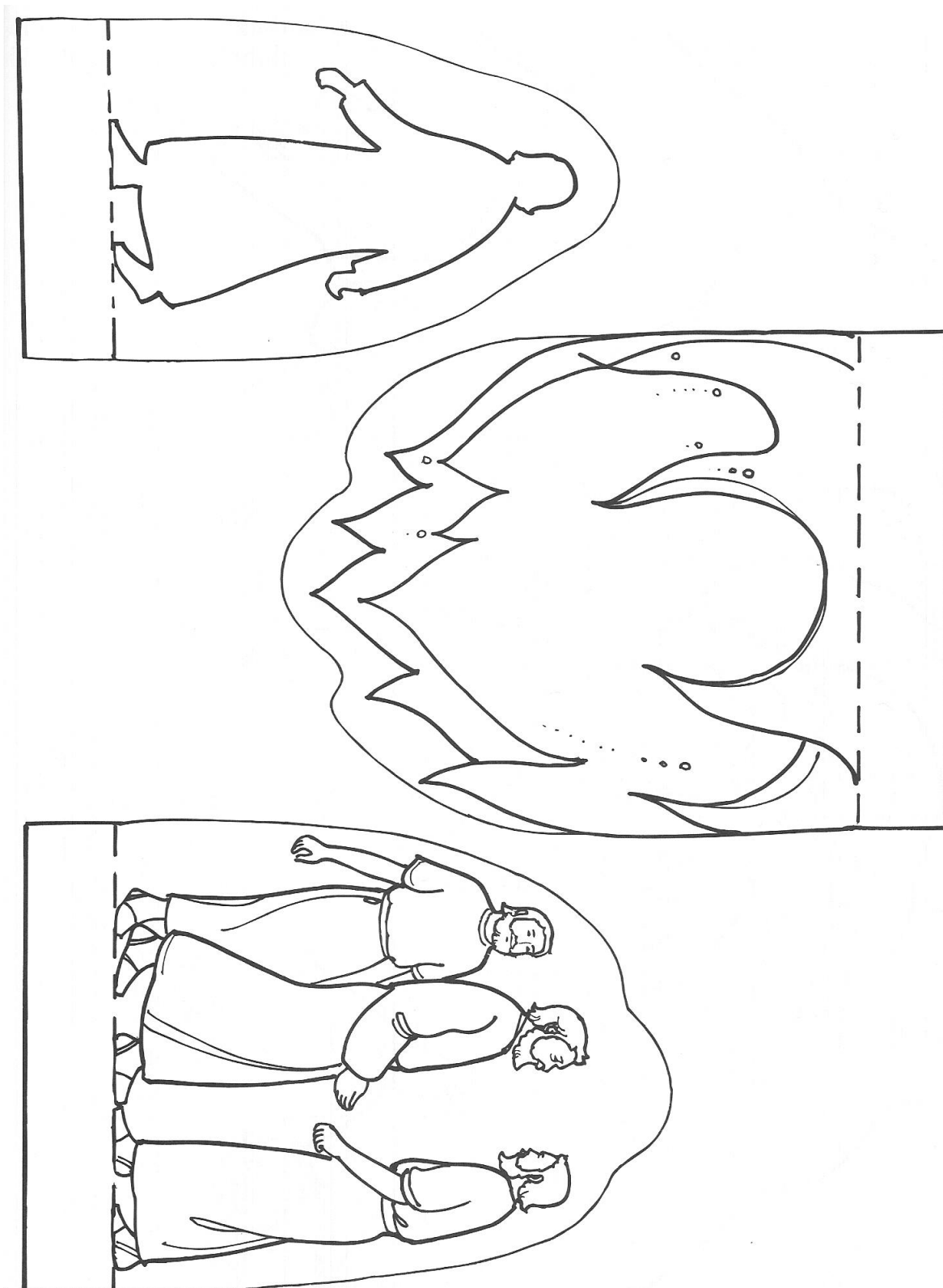
MEMORY VERSE

"Deliver me from my enemies, O God; protect me from those who rise up against me." Psalm 59:1

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Daniel 3:1-30

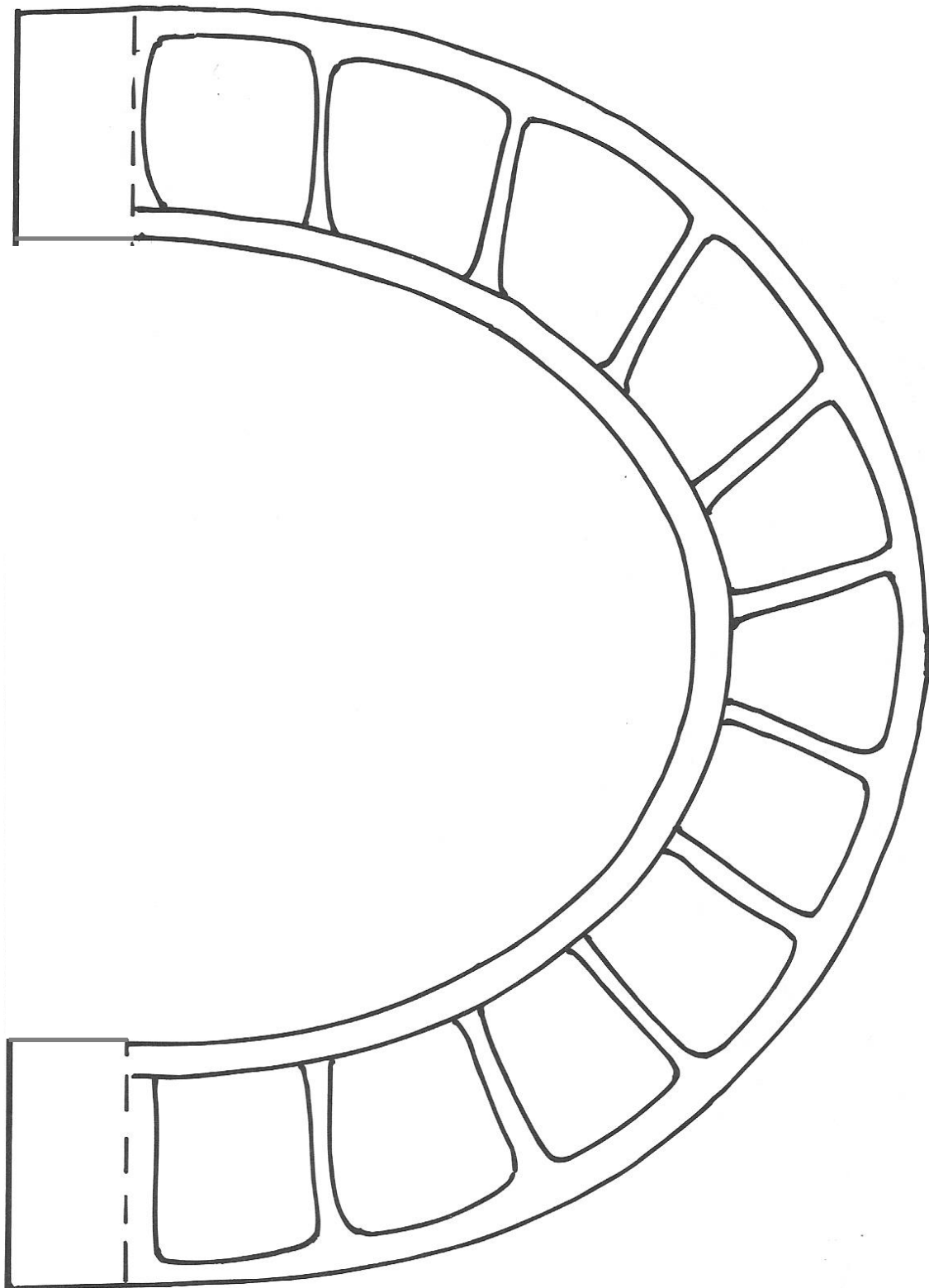
FURNACE PATTERN



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Daniel 3:1-30

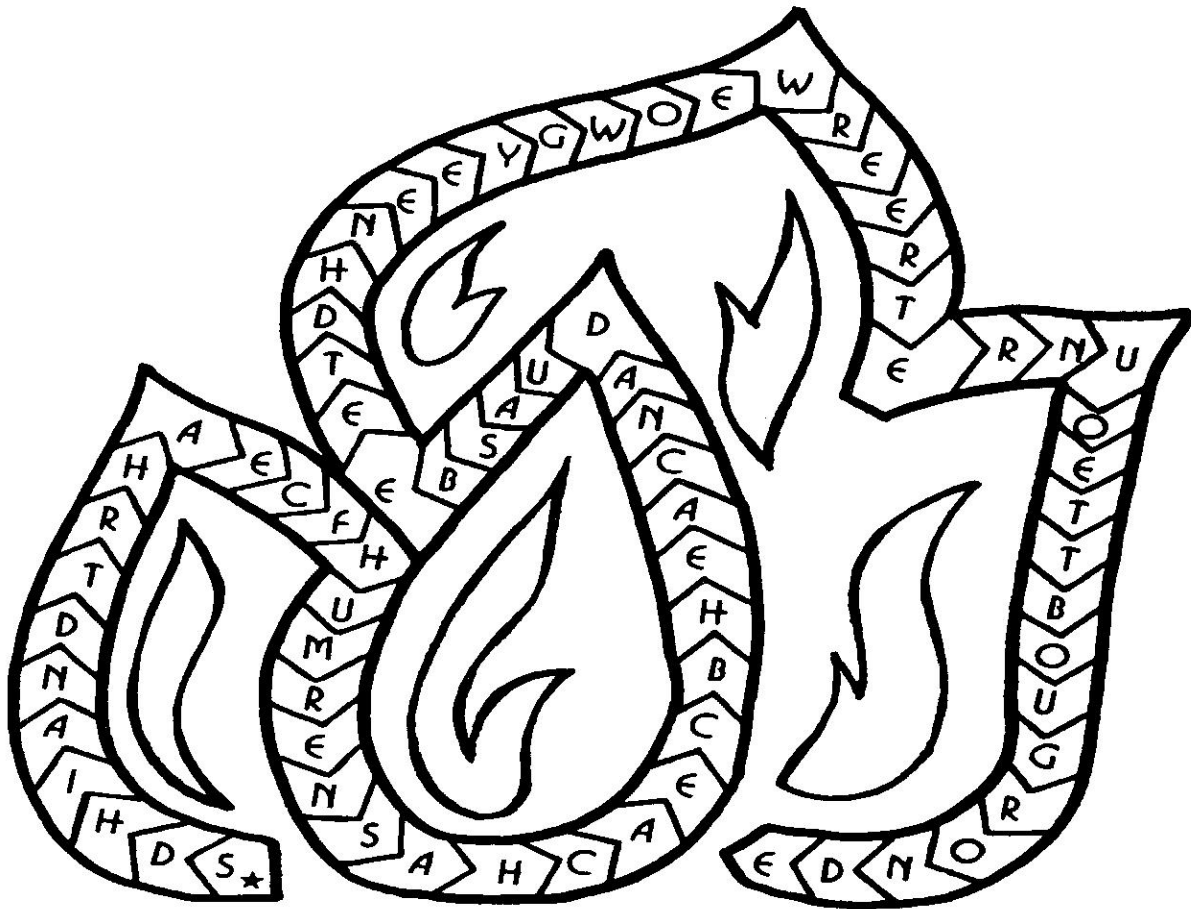
FURNACE PATTERN



GOD PROTECTS DANIEL'S FRIENDS

Daniel 3:1-30

King Nebuchadnezzar declared that everyone had to worship a gold statue instead of God. Some of the Jews disobeyed this command, and this made the king very angry. He ordered these people thrown into a blazing furnace. To find out what happened, begin with the letter S by the star. Use a light color to color in every other letter on the path around the flames. Write the colored letters, then the uncolored ones in the blanks below. (See Daniel 3.)

[illegible]

THE BIBLE TIMES HERALD

A SPECIAL REPORT ON DANIEL 3:1-30

GOD PROTECTS DANIEL'S FRIENDS



King Nebuchadnezzar made an image of gold that was 90 feet high and 9 feet wide. The king called together his officials and stood before the idol.

The people were told to fall down and worship the golden idol when they heard music play. If anyone did not

worship the idol, they would be thrown into a fiery furnace.

Some astrologers came to the king to tattle on Daniel's friends. Daniel's friends refused to worship the idol. The astrologers wanted Daniel's friends to be thrown into the fiery furnace.

The king asked to see Daniel's friends. The king was angry that they did not worship the idol. He threw Daniel's friends into the fiery furnace. The king ordered that the furnace be heated seven times hotter than usual. The fire was so hot that the flames killed the soldiers who took Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego to the furnace!

The king was surprised when he saw four men in the furnace, not three. The king called for Daniel's three friends to come out of the furnace. When the three men came out, they were unharmed! An angel had kept the three men safe. Not even a hair their heads was burned!

Then King Nebuchadnezzar began to praise God. He ordered that no one say anything bad about God. Anyone who said anything bad about God was cut to pieces and their houses were destroyed.

Daniel's friends were given more important jobs than they had before.

To find out more, read Daniel 3:1-30 in your Bible.

QUESTIONS

1. What did the king order the people to do when they heard music?
2. Why didn't Daniel's friends worship the golden idol?
3. What happened to Daniel's friends?
4. Why do you think God protected Daniel's friends?

MEMORY VERSE

"Deliver me from my enemies, O God; protect me from those who rise up against me." Psalm 59:1

BREAK THE CODE

5 1 6 12 10 4 2

1 3 9 7

8 1 11

1=O

2=P

3=N

4=I

5=W

6=R

7=Y

8=G

9=L

10=H

11=D

12=S

Ideas For Home:

Today your child learned how God protected Daniel's friends from the fiery furnace.

1. Have your child finish coloring this book.
2. Help your child learn the *Memory Verse*.
3. Practice the *Bible Story Rhyme*.
4. Read and discuss the bible story with your child.
5. Discuss how God is with us in good times and in bad.

Bible Story Mini Book

God Protects Daniel's Friends



Daniel 3:1-30

Colored by: _____



The king saw an angel
protecting Daniel's
friends. The king let
Daniel's friends go.



Daniel's three friends
worshiped the one true
God.

Memory Verse

“...Oh God protect me...”
Psalm 59:1

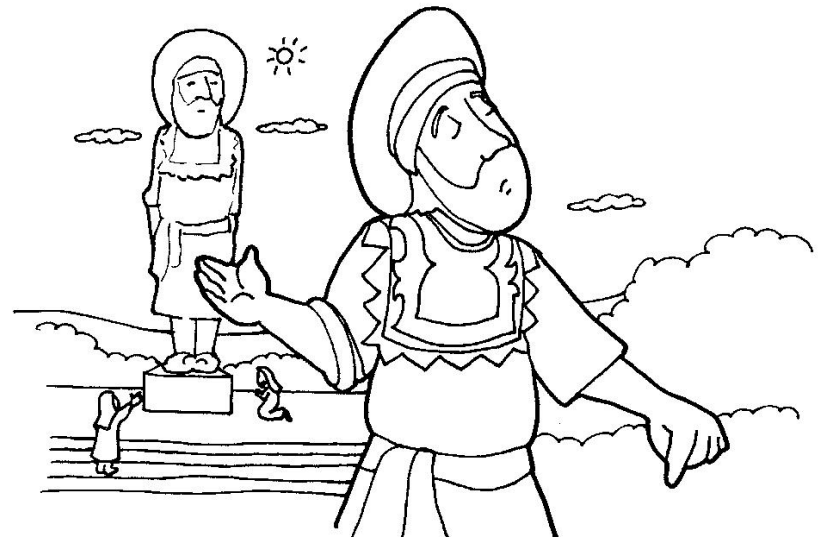
Bible Story Rhyme

Godly Daniel had three friends,
(Hold up three fingers)

God protected all of them.
(Give yourself a hug)

In the fire his friends were thrown,
(Hold up both hands and wiggle fingers)

**But don't you worry; they weren't
alone!**
(Shake pointer finger from left to right)



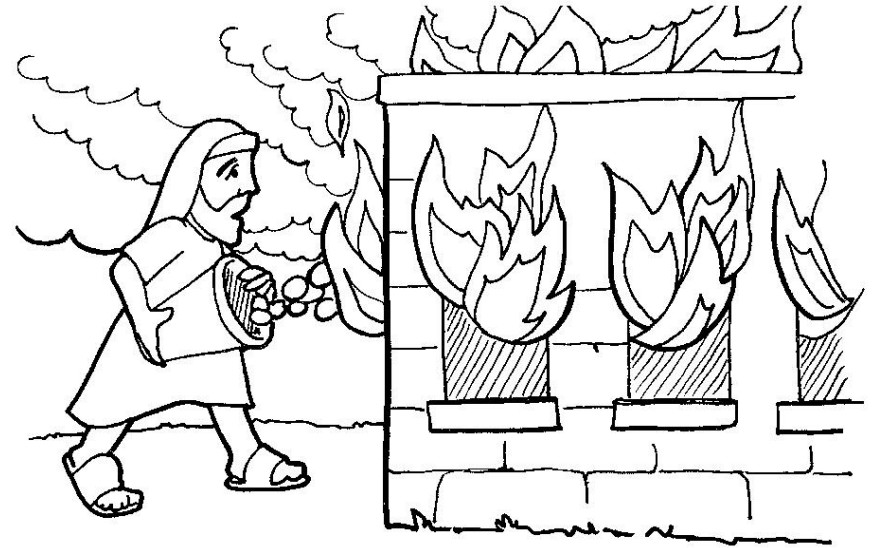
**King Nebuchadnezzar built
a golden statue and
ordered everyone to
worship it.**

Have You Ever Sinned?

The Bible teaches that we have *all* sinned and do not measure up to God's glory. It also teaches that the price for sin is death which separates us from God. But even though we are sinners, Christ died for us and paid the price for our sin. We just need to ask him to forgive us and receive his free gift of salvation. Just pray this prayer, with a sincere heart, and Jesus will forgive you of your sins. You will become a child of God and live with Him in heaven.

“Dear Jesus,

Please forgive me for the bad things that I have done. Please come into my heart and be my Lord and savior. In your name I pray, Amen.”



Daniel's friends refused to worship the idol. Daniel's friends were thrown into a fiery furnace.

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PRESCHOOL GAME

Supplies: A hoop large enough for four children to stand inside it and strips of red fabric

**Kids will find the friend who will
deliver them from the flames.**

Tie strips of red fabric to the hoop.

Play this game in a well-defined space so that children are easily caught.

Choose three children to be Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Have them step inside the hoop and hold the hoop at their waists so that the "flames" are all around them. Choose one child inside the hoop to be the tagger. The tagger doesn't need to hold on to the hoop. They must move together to help the tagger tag a fourth child with his or her hands. When the tagger tags someone, that child will climb inside the hoop. The children will immediately drop the hoop so that it falls around the legs of all four children.

Teach the children this chant:

**Nebuchadnezzar threw in three,
But I count four! How can that be?
One, two, three, four!
Come on out,
Let's play some more!**

Choose three other children, and repeat the game.

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PRESCHOOL BIBLE STORY RHYME



Godly Daniel had three friends,
(Hold up three fingers)

God protected all of them.
(Give yourself a hug)

In the fire his friends were thrown,
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But don't you worry; they weren't alone!
(Shake pointer finger from left to right)