



### Lesson:

We continued our series, called “Fearless”. We reviewed last week’s lesson about replacing our fears with faith, like Gideon did, so that our fear doesn’t stop us from doing what God asks us to do.

This week we talked about three fearless teenage boys who faced one of the most horrific situations imaginable. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego refused to walk away from their faith even when faced with the certain death of King Nebuchadnezzar’s blazing furnace. Their solidly strong faith in God not only saved them from being burned alive, it also saved the King and the entire kingdom by changing the king’s mind on worshipping “The God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.” instead of idols and other gods.

We then discussed some of the everyday trials that may test or make fun of our own faith and agreed we should always obey what God says instead of what people say. We also said that we should believe in God’s truth, not just believe the facts and opinions of the world. We noted all throughout the Bible are stories that would normally be impossible if we believe the world’s opinions but can and did happen following God’s truth of the Bible. God doesn’t operate in what people would normally consider possible. He has his own interpretation of the truth because God is the author of truth.

Finally, we talked about how over 90% of the US population say they “Believe in God” yet their actions show that most of them do NOT “Believe God”. When God says “do this”, they don’t and when God says “don’t do this”, they do it anyway. They believe IN God, believe that he is real and out there somewhere but they don’t believe him, what he says or the instructions he gives. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego didn’t just believe IN God or just have faith that God exists. They Believed God and changed their world. We said to trust God, listen to God and most importantly, Believe God and watch how God will use you to change your world too.

**Next week** we continue our “Fearless” series and will talk about somebody in the Bible who you probably never heard of as we learn how being fearless can turn ordinary people into extra-ordinary people.

### Bible Verse: 2 Timothy 1:7

7 “For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.” (memory verse for the series)

### Bible Verse: Daniel 3:4-6

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

### Bible Verse: Daniel 3:15-18

15 I will give you one more chance to bow down and worship the statue I have made when you hear the sound of the musical instruments. But if you refuse, you will be thrown immediately into the blazing furnace. And then what god will be able to rescue you from my power?” 16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego replied, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you. 17 If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God whom we serve is able to save us. He will rescue us from your power, Your Majesty. 18 But even if he doesn’t, we want to make it clear to you, Your Majesty, that we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up.”

### Bible Verse: Daniel 3:23-29

23 So Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, securely tied, fell into the roaring flames. 24 But suddenly, Nebuchadnezzar jumped up in amazement and exclaimed to his advisers, “Didn’t we tie up three men and throw them into the furnace?” “Yes, Your Majesty, we certainly did,” they replied. 25 “Look!” Nebuchadnezzar shouted. “I see four men, unbound, walking around in the fire unharmed! And the fourth looks like a god!” 26 Then Nebuchadnezzar came as close as he could to the door of the flaming furnace and shouted: “Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!” So Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego stepped out of the fire. 27 Then the high officers, officials, governors, and advisers crowded around them and saw that the fire had not touched them. Not a hair on their heads was singed, and their clothing was not scorched. They didn’t even smell of smoke 28 Then Nebuchadnezzar said, “Praise to the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego! He sent his angel to rescue his servants who trusted in him. They defied the king’s command and were willing to die rather than serve or worship any god except their own God. 29 Therefore, I make this decree: If any people, whatever their race or nation or language, speak a word against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, they will be torn limb from limb, and their houses will be turned into heaps of rubble. There is no other god who can rescue like this!”