

# Sermon Notes

"A Fiery Faith"  
Daniel 3:1-30  
June 7, 2015

- Count up all the reasons listed in the text (3:19-23) for why these men should NOT have survived the flames. Then list the evidence provided of God's intervention and protection (3:24-27).

## Introduction:

- As you think about a situation from which you need rescued by God, what are all the obstacles (challenges, "strikes against you", etc.) God will have to overcome?

1.

(3:1-7)

- Note how Nebuchadnezzar summarized the story in 3:28-29. Identify key phrases that capture the dynamics of what this chapter is about. How would you summarize what you have learned from this passage?

## Sample Rationalizations:

### Let's Pray:

For our missionaries:

*Steve and Erin Voss - Expeditions Unlimited*

Pray for physical and spiritual safety as the staff of young adults engage the children and youth attending summer retreats. Pray that God will draw many attendees to faith in Christ and a deep committed walk with Him.

Take time to praise God for the ways in which he has rescued you, for "no other god can save in this way" (3:29).

- Respond with \_\_\_\_\_ . (3:8-18)

3.

(3:19-30)

### Conclusion:

# Growth Group Homework

For the week of 6-7-15

Questions adapted from Daniel: Life Change Series, NavPress, Colorado Springs, CO, 2013, pp. 33-39; Douglas Connelly, Daniel: Spiritual Living in a Secular World, Intervarsity Press, Downers Grove, IL, 2000, pp. 19-21.

### Getting Started:

1. Think of someone who is a model to you of courageous commitment to Christ. How can you learn more from that person about remaining faithful in your allegiance to Christ?

### Digging Deeper:

2. Read Daniel 3. What temptations did Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego face when they were brought before the king (3:13-15)?

3. In what circumstances have you been pressured to compromise what is right? What resources can help you resist that pressure?
4. How will the example from Daniel 3 encourage you if you are faced with the possibility of losing your job or being rejected by friends because of your refusal to compromise God's Word?
5. How is the reality of what happens in Daniel 3:25 reflected in the words of Psalm 91:9-12 and Isaiah 43:1-2?
6. These three friends survived because of God's intervention. But we know many others in history with similar loyalty to God who suffered and died at the hands of persecutors (consider this contrast in Hebrews 11:32-39). Was this because God was unable to deliver at those times? Was it because these others did not have the requisite faith? How would you explain the difference using Daniel 3:17-18?