

THE SABBATH CIRCLES HOME SCHOOL CURRICULUM

Unit Theme: Exploring the Stories of the Old Testament

Today's story: Daniel and the Fiery Furnace (Daniel 3:14-30)

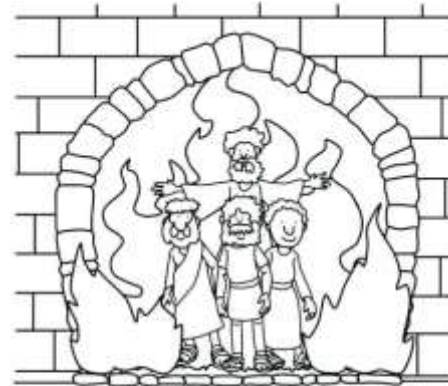
Key Verse: "Nebuchadnezzar said, 'Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who has sent his angel and delivered his servants who trusted in him.'" Daniel 3:28

Questions to go deeper into the story:

- Who was Nebuchadnezzar?
- Why did he become so angry with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego?
- What happened when Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were thrown into the fiery furnace?
- How did they get back out again?
- How does the story end?
- What is the point of this story do you think? Why is it included in the Bible?

Activity possibilities:

- Check out the coloring picture on the back of this insert.
- Make a collage that tells part of the story. Get some colored construction paper – brown, black, red and orange. Cut out 3 human silhouettes and one angel silhouette from the black paper and glue to the brown paper. Take some red and orange paper and cut into flame shapes, then paste around figures as flames. Add some glitter to the flames if you have some! Then, take your collage and show it to someone else while you tell them the story. Don't forget to explain how Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego survived!



This is a really tough story!

No one wants to think about someone being burned to death in a fiery furnace and yet this is a bible story that used to be taught routinely to young children, yours truly (Rev. Ruth) included! Why? I think because we only ever imagined it as a

story not so very different from Hansel and Gretel or Little Red Riding Hood. Only as time progressed and we started to think about stories like this one in more depth as portraying God in ways that don't reflect the God we know and love did these stories fall out of favor. Yet, they are still part of our history. How do YOU think we should handle this and other gruesome stories in the bible? Pretend they're not there? Study them but not as definitive of God but only of how God was understood by some during very scary times?

Here's a fun video on YouTube which shows just how lightheartedly this story was taken years ago!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6r1baNdgImo>

Remember, Rev. Ruth is always available to answer your questions anytime! Call, text, or email her or stop by the Savoy any Thursday afternoon from 2-4pm!!