



Optional: Sing "Be Still & Know" to begin your time of Family Worship

PRAY — “Dear God, thank you for prayer. We are glad that you hear us and that you have the power to save us! Amen.”

Say: Over the next 4 weeks, we will learn about a prophet named Daniel. Daniel was kicked out of his home and forced to live in a far away land named Babylon because the Israelites did not obey God.

Say: Even though God’s people were being punished, God still loved and cared for them!

Say: When in Babylon, some of Daniel’s friends got into trouble for deciding to only worship God; even though the king of Babylon was forcing everyone to worship a statue of himself.

Say: As punishment, Daniel’s friends were thrown into a big furnace! Even in the furnace they trusted God. They prayed to God. God heard them and saved them!

Read the Bible— *open a Bible and read Daniel 3. If you have younger children, consider reading from a children’s Bible. You can either have 1 person read the whole passage, or take turns. This can be great practice for little ones learning how to read!*

“If 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...but even if he does not...we will not serve your gods”

Daniel 3:17

Say: Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego refused to blend into the crowd. They knew that worshipping anyone else was a sin. The three friends loved God and they were willing to die in order to obey God.

Ask: Why do you think God allowed Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego to go through the fire?

Say: God uses scary situations to build up our faith. When we stand strong in our faith, God shows to other people, just like he showed King Nebuchadnezzar that God is mighty to save.

Say: We may get confused by something difficult like how to deal with a bully at school or how to be kind to a brother or sister who is not being loving.

Say: But we can trust that God has a plan. We can pray to God and He will hear us!



Ask: What did the King see when he looked into the furnace?

Say: The king saw 4 people, instead of three people. The fourth person even looked like a god! This fourth person was sent by God to save Daniel's 3 friends.

Say: God showed His power to King Nebuchadnezzar and to everyone that day! As a result, even the king began to worship God. God was with Shadrach Meshach and Abednego. Only he could save them.

Say: God rescues us too through Jesus. Only Jesus can save us from our sin. Jesus' sacrifice on the cross provided the way for us to be rescued from sin and have

Practice Your Faith

Just like long ago—there are many things that can distract us from worshipping God. What are some things that get in the way of you worshipping God? How can you as a family put worshipping God first in your life?

PRAY *Ask a family member to close in prayer. Family members of all ages can pray, this can be a great opportunity to get older children to pray for your family as well*

Dear God, thank you for the gift of Jesus. Thank you saving us from our sin. Give us strength to worship You even when its hard and confusing. Amen.

The Gospel: God's Plan for Me

Ask kids if they have ever heard the word *gospel*. Clarify that the word *gospel* means "good news." It is the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation. Use the following guide to share the gospel with kids.



God rules. Explain to kids that the Bible tells us God created everything, and He is in charge of everything. Invite a volunteer to read Genesis 1:1 from the Bible. Read Revelation 4:11 or Colossians 1:16-17 aloud and explain what these verses mean.



We sinned. Tell kids that since the time of Adam and Eve, everyone has chosen to disobey God. (Romans 3:23) The Bible calls this sin. Because God is holy, God cannot be around sin. Sin separates us from God and deserves God's punishment of death. (Romans 6:23)



God provided. Choose a child to read John 3:16 aloud. Say that God sent His Son, Jesus, the perfect solution to our sin problem, to rescue us from the punishment we deserve. It's something we, as sinners, could never earn on our own. Jesus alone saves us. Read and explain Ephesians 2:8-9.



Jesus gives. Share with kids that Jesus lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, and rose again. Because Jesus gave up His life for us, we can be welcomed into God's family for eternity. This is the best gift ever! Read Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; or 1 Peter 3:18.



We respond. Tell kids that they can respond to Jesus. Read Romans 10:9-10,13. Review these aspects of our response: Believe in your heart that Jesus alone saves you through what He's already done on the cross. Repent, turning from self and sin to Jesus. Tell God and others that your faith is in Jesus.

