

FAITH AND THE FIERY FURNACE

Large Group Script

-SLIDE- Welcome

Start kids countdown once all classes are present

-SLIDE- Series Intro (2-5 min)

Hey kids! Welcome to kids church. I'm so glad you could be here today. We're gonna have fun, right? Let's get started.

Today we're finishing our series on Bible heroes. Do you think we can name them all? Let's try. Who was a first hero? **(Hint: long hair and big muscles) (allow a few kids to answer)**. Yes, Samson! He taught us about **self control**. Who was next?

(Hint: held a contest-his God against little gods) (allow a few kids to answer). Elijah! He taught us about who **the real God** is. Hmmmm, who was next? **(Hint: A weird name who had 3 armies ready to attack him) (allow a few kids to answer)** Good, Jehoshaphat. He taught us about **prayer**. Who was next? **(Hint: this guy was a commander with a yucky disease) (allow a few kids to answer)** Yup, Naaman. But who was the real hero in that story? **(allow a few kids to answer)** That's right, the girl with no name because she had **compassion**. Last week we learned about...**(Hint: became a king at 8yrs old) (allow a few kids to answer)** Good, Josiah! He taught us about the importance of **God's Word**, the Bible.

Good job you guys! You have great memories. I couldn't have gotten through that without your help.

Today, we're going to talk about three friends. Now, you may think we've heard the last of the weird names but here are some more. The three friends were named Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego! Have you heard of these guys before? **(allow a few kids to answer)**. Don't worry if you haven't because we're going to learn about them in a few minutes.

But first we're going to sing No one Greater. This is the last week we'll sing this for awhile. Remember, there is no one greater than our God! Let's stand and sing together!

-SONG- No one Greater (3 min)

That was great! Good job. I think God loves to hear all your voices praising Him. Now, let's sit down so we can hear about our Big idea and Key Question for the day.

-SLIDE- Big Idea: We should have big faith because we serve a big God.
(repeat with kids)

-SLIDE- Key Question: What has God done in your life to make your faith bigger?

This is a really important question. Faith means having confidence that God is who He says He is and that He'll do what He says He's going to do. Notice that our key question this week is a little different. Instead of listening for the answer in the video, you will discuss it in your small groups. It will be fun to hear what God has done in each of your lives.

Let's listen to the video and find out how Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego showed big faith in their big God.

-VIDEO- Faith and the Fiery Furnace (4 min)

-SLIDE- Recap (3 min)

So, what did we learn from the video today? Let's review...

- Who are the heroes in today's story? (Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego)
- What did the king tell people to do? (worship a fake god- a gold statue)
- What did the friends say to the king? (we won't worship that silly idol)
- Where did the king throw them? (a fiery furnace)
- Did God save them? (Yes)

What an amazing story! Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were very brave to stand up to the king. You know why they were so brave? Because they knew the real God- the only God in the whole universe. They had faith that God was big enough and strong enough to save them from a fire.

You know what? We can have big faith, too. God is big enough to help you with whatever you're going through.

Stand up and let's say our memory verse for this week.

-SLIDE- Memory Verse: Be on guard **(arms folded in front of you)**. Stand firm **(step out with one leg to widen your stance)** in the faith. Be courageous. Be strong **(flex your arm muscles.)** 1 Corinthians 16:13(NLT) **(Repeat)**

Great job! I hope you practice that at home this week. I challenge all of you to memorize this verse. It's nice and short. Now let's sing again.

-SONG- We Won't Be Quiet (3 min)

Great job! Let's take a look at the Key Question again.

-SLIDE- Key Question: What has God done in your life to make your faith bigger?

Remember, instead of answering it in here, you are going to discuss it in small groups. Be thinking about things God has done in your life to make your faith bigger.

As we get ready to go to small groups, remember the Big Idea. Let's say it one more time...

-SLIDE- Big Idea: We should have big faith because we serve a big God.
(Have kids repeat)

-SLIDE- Let's Pray

-SLIDE- Let's go to small groups