

Joyful Life Bible Studies



Daniel 3:1-30

Lesson 5

FIRST DAY: Review and Overview

1. What influence has your study of Daniel 2:24-49 had on your life this week?
2. This week we will study one of the greatest faith building chapters in the Bible. Daniel 3 reveals God's mighty deliverance of His children in their fiery trials. Also, the faith and commitment of Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego should encourage and inspire us in our faith. Read Daniel 3:1-30. Let the miracle of verse 25 minister to you as you print it here phrase by phrase.
3. Often a chapter in the Bible is so familiar to us it is possible to miss the wonder contained in it. To avoid this, begin your study of Daniel 3 by writing a prayer asking the Lord for fresh insight and application. Write your prayer here.

*So then faith cometh by hearing,
and hearing by the Word of God.*
Romans 10:17

SECOND DAY: Read Daniel 3:1-7


1. Today we will discover King Nebuchadnezzar's reaction to the interpretation of his dream (Daniel 2). Describe what he did from Daniel 3:1.

2. Read Daniel 3:2-7. Picture a *gold image* (statue) 90 feet tall by 9 feet wide. After this *image* was set up summarize the events that followed from:
 - a. verses 2,3

 - b. verses 4-6

 - c. verse 7
 - (1.) Imagine what it would have been like to stand before this impressive gold statue and to hear the death threat for those who refused to bow and worship the image. How do you think you would react under similar pressure?

3. When they heard *the sound of . . . all kinds of music* (Daniel 3:5-7), there were only two choices: bow or burn. The Jews who were there should have known what God had commanded His children in Exodus 20:(3,4)5a. How should this have influenced their decision?
 - a. Believers today are often hard-pressed by our culture to worship the gods of this world. What enables you to keep from bowing to this pressure?

*And I will serve no foreign god,
nor any other treasure.
You are my heart's desire, Spirit without measure.
Unto Your name I will raise my sacrifice.*
-selected 

THIRD DAY: Read Daniel 3:8-18

1. Daniel 3 becomes more and more intriguing as the narrative unfolds. Choose and record a few interesting phrases from Daniel 3:8-15:
 - a. Daniel 3:8-12

 - b. Daniel 3:13-15

Note: Pastor Chuck says: *Daniel is not mentioned at all in this chapter. He would never have bowed to the image, so we have to conclude that he was not there.*

Pastor Chuck and other expositors believe there is a prophetic parallel between the third chapter of Daniel and the events of the Rapture of the Church and the Great Tribulation.

2. Daniel 3:16-18 is the heart of today's study. Verses 17,18 are two of the most powerfully inspiring verses in this chapter. Consider this as you write from the following verses what *Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego* said to the king:
 - a. verse 17


 - b. verse 18

3. For a moment put yourself in the place of these three men. Think about what they could have done in this life-threatening situation. How are they a role model for you in the area of:
 - a. faith

 - b. commitment

 - c. resolve

4. Ponder this declaration: *the God Whom we serve is able.* . . .(Daniel 3:17a). Share a way this ministers to you today.

*He is able, more than able, to accomplish what concerns me today.
He is able, more than able, to handle anything that comes my way.*
-selected 

FOURTH DAY: Read Daniel 3:19-25

1. Write a news article describing the series of events from Daniel 3:19-25 as though you were a reporter for The Babylonian Chronicle.

2. *Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego* chose to trust God whether He delivered them from *the fiery furnace* or not. What is most amazing to you about Daniel 3:24,25?

Optional: Notice the word *loose* in verse 25. Pastor Chuck says: *The fire didn't burn them; it freed them*
Recall a time in your life when God used a fiery trial to set you free. Be prepared to share this with your group.

3. These three Hebrews would have been familiar with the writings of Moses, David and Isaiah. Write the promises of God from the following verses:
 - a. Deuteronomy 31:8
 - b. Psalm 34:7;91:11
 - c. Isaiah 43:2
 - d. How do these verses speak to you today?

*Thou, O Lord, art a shield about me.
You're my glory and the lifter of my head.*
-selected 🎵


FIFTH DAY: Read Daniel 3:26-30

1. Chapter Three of Daniel concludes with the incredible deliverance of *Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego*. Read Daniel 3:26-30 and record what you learn about:
 - a. Nebuchadnezzar
 - (1.) his decree
 - b. Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego
 - c. God
2. Consider Daniel 3:27b NIV: *They saw that the fire had not harmed their bodies, nor was a hair of their heads singed; their robes were not scorched, and there was no smell of fire on them.* What aspect of this miraculous deliverance impresses you the most?
 - a. Tell why.
3. Observe the king's declaration from Daniel 3:28b NIV: *They trusted in Him and defied the king's command and were willing to give up their lives rather than serve or worship any god except their own God.* What was the effect of the three Hebrews' witness on the king according to Daniel 3:28-30?
4. Focus on this truth from Daniel 3:29c NKJV: *there is no other God Who can deliver like this.* Write a sentence of praise in response to this.

*Our God is an awesome God.
He reigns from heaven above with wisdom, power and love.
Our God is an awesome God!*
-selected 🎵

SIXTH DAY: Review Daniel 3:1-30

1. How has this week's study of Daniel 3:1-30 strengthened your faith?
2. In what specific ways have *Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego* been an example for you?
3. Through your study this week, what lessons did you receive about the risks and rewards of obedience to God?
4. Share a way your lesson this week challenged, encouraged or inspired you.

*When thro' fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply.
The flames shall not hurt thee;
I only design thy dross to consume,
and thy gold to refine.
-selected *