



Bible Character Study



from Godly Pearls

Making Jesus Christ known, one story at a time.



A NOTE TO CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS:

Thank you for downloading this Bible Character Study.

This first page contains different sections to help you when planning for your class, for example, Home-school, Sunday School, Bible Study, Bible Club, Mission class, etc.

We suggest that you print pages 2 - 5 and distribute them to your students.



Topic:

The three Hebrew children – stand for what is right, even if you are standing alone.



Read the Bible References: The Bible references can be read by different children if possible. Or the teacher can read them.



Goals of Lesson:

- To encourage students to always stand for what is right.



Lesson Takeaway:

Do the right thing always even if you are the only one. God is always with you – He will never leave you alone.



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Date:



Topic:

The three Hebrew children – stand for what is right, even if you are standing alone.



Bible References:

Daniel 3:8 – 30.



Who were the three Hebrew children?

The three Hebrew children were Jews, children of Israel. They lived in Jerusalem but King Nebuchadnezzar invaded Jerusalem and carried them away as slaves to Babylon. Their names were Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah (Daniel 1:6) but in Babylon, they got new names – Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (Daniel 1:7). When they got to Babylon as slaves, King Nebuchadnezzar asked Ashpenaz, the master of his eunuchs, to select some special people that would be trained to serve in the king's palace. It was like getting a scholarship to study in the university for three years.

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were among the people selected.



What did the three Hebrew children do?

King Nebuchadnezzar made a law and asked people to bow down and worship a golden image he had made. It was like putting up a giant figurine and saying to the figurine, "you are my god. I worship you!". It sounds foolish, right? Well, it sure didn't sound foolish to Nebuchadnezzar. He was serious about worshipping his idols and wanted everyone in Babylon to join him too.





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What did the three Hebrew children do? - Continued

Every other person in Babylon bowed down and worshipped the golden image but these Hebrew young men did not! Some people reported them to the king. The king was furious. He gave them another chance to change their minds and threatened that if they still refused to bow down to the image, they would be thrown into a burning furnace – an enclosed area that is burning!. Nebuchadnezzar spoke, saying to them, “Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the gold image which I have set up? Now if you are ready at the time you hear the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, and psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, and you fall down and worship the image which I have made, good! But if you do not worship, you shall be cast immediately into the midst of a burning fiery furnace. And who is the god who will deliver you from my hands?” (Daniel 3:14-15).

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego knew that the golden image should never be worshipped as the true God. They honoured and respected the one and only true God who made heaven and earth. God told us through the commandments He gave Moses and the children of Israel, “I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. “You shall have no other gods before Me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image...”. (Exodus 20:2-4).

The three Hebrew children knew that if they worshipped the golden image, they would be disobeying the laws of God. So, they chose to obey God rather than the king. They saw everyone else bowing down to the image on that day but stood alone. They must have been under a lot of pressure. Perhaps someone said to them, “what is your problem? Just bow and get on with your life. Do you have to make a fuss about this too? See, everyone is doing it! You are not that special!”.



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What did the three Hebrew children do? - Continued

They knew they were very special to God, and they cannot join a crowd to disobey God. They made up their minds to stand, even if they were standing alone.

Well, the King threw them into a burning fiery furnace as he had threatened. Was that the end of the three boys? No! God showed up in the burning furnace. It was like God saying, "you stood for me, even though you stood alone. Now, I show myself to you and stand with you in the burning fiery furnace!". It was a miracle!

Even the king saw the miracle. "Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished; and he rose in haste and spoke, saying to his counsellors, "Did we not cast three men bound into the midst of the fire?"

They answered and said to the king, "True, O king". "Look!" he answered, "I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God". (Daniel 3:24-25). How exciting! We serve a living God who will never leave us alone.

How did the story end? The king made a new law asking people to worship the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego or they would be punished if they refused. The three Hebrew boys were also promoted!



What can we learn from the three Hebrew children?

Standing for what is right can be very hard especially if you are the only one. But when you stand for what is right, God will always be with you and bless you. You might even change the minds of the people who are choosing to do wrong! You are special, don't get lost in the crowd of people who are making wrong choices.

The three Hebrew boys knew what God wanted them to do because they knew the laws of God. When you read the bible, you will know what God wants you to do.

God was with the three Hebrew boys in the burning furnace. God is with us everywhere we go.



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Memorize:

Matthew 28:20 - "...and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen".



Scenario review:

Your friends at school are constantly posting bad pictures and videos on Facebook, Instagram and TikTok. You know that what they post is very bad and will even get them in trouble if their parents or teachers at school should see them. They are always asking you to post something too.

You feel weird and odd for not joining in the social media fun. You are feeling the pressure to join them. What will you do? Why did you make that choice?



Remember:

When you choose to do the right thing and it feels like you are standing alone, remember that you are never alone. God is right there with you!



Let us pray: Dear God, it is hard to stand alone for what is right. I feel the pressure to join my friends in making bad choices because I don't want to feel like I am alone. Help me Lord to always remember that I am never alone and that You are always with me. I ask these in Jesus' name, amen!



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We will like to hear from you.

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