

"Daniel's Greatest Hits: The One About the Fiery Furnace" Small Group Questions Week of June 26, 2022

Icebreaker:

Fire questions: Do you prefer a wood or gas fire for heat and ambiance in the home? Do you prefer propane or charcoal fires for the grill? Why?

Discussion Questions:

Read Daniel 3 together.

1. What does the king's response to Daniel's dream interpretation tell you about him?

Why is it so difficult to let go of pride?

How does his story mirror those of public figures in today's world?

- 2. Verses 4-7 and 9-11 are nearly identical passages. What does this repetition communicate about the content of King Nebuchadnezzar's decree?
- 3. In a culture that was accustomed to bowing before idols, the king's demand must have seemed like just another day. Why were Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego able to disregard the king's command?

Why do you suppose all of the Jews in Babylon didn't challenge the command?

What are some parallels to this situation in today's culture?

4. What is your response to the apparent arrogance of the three men (vs. 16)?

When do believers cross the line from appropriate confidence to inappropriate arrogance?

5. What are some of the modern day "idols" you bow down to?

What makes it difficult for you to stand against these influences?

What might Daniel say to you about standing up when the rest of the world bows down?

What are some practical steps you can take to be stronger in the face of these idols?

6. What are ways you can focus on selflessness this week?

How can your small group support you in that endeavor?