

# CHILDREN'S BIBLE INSTITUTE

*GREAT MEN &  
WOMEN OF GOD*



# 6

GRADE 3 ■ COURSE A ■ LESSON 6

LESSON

# THE FIERY FURNACE

**K**ing Nebuchadnezzar's army took the city of Jerusalem, where Daniel and his friends Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego lived. They burned the city and took the people prisoners. Many were taken away to the city of Babylon, including Daniel with his three friends.

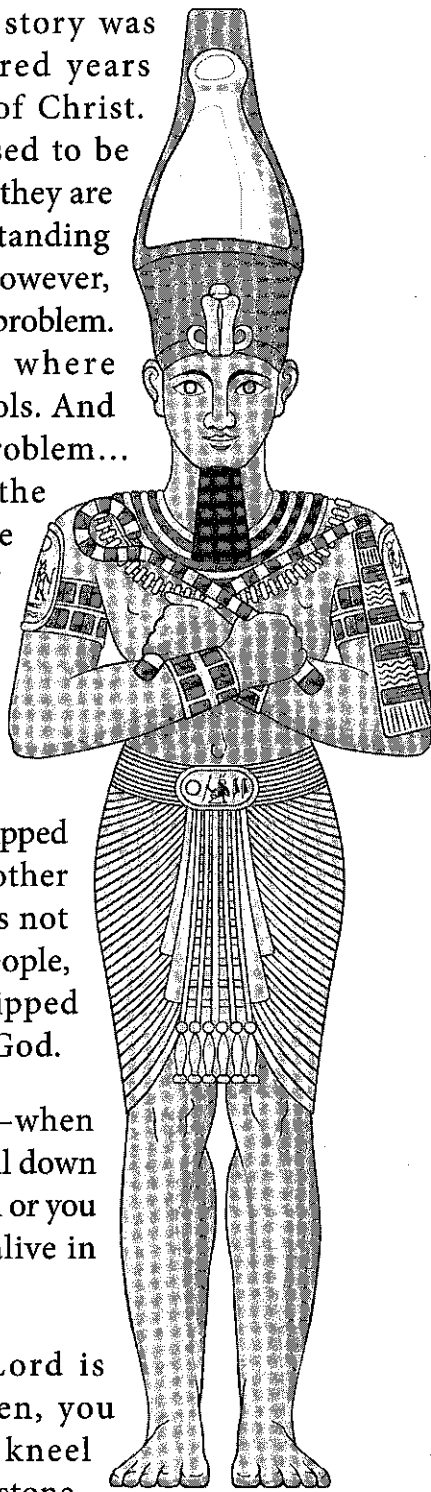
Daniel and his friends proved themselves well while being prisoners. The king was very impressed with Daniel. "Then the king made Daniel a great man, and gave him many great gifts, and made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief of the governors over all the wise men of Babylon" (Daniel 2:48).

The king also honored Daniel's friends. "Then Daniel requested of the king, and he set Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, over the affairs of the province of Babylon" (Daniel 2:49).

## COULD NOT KILL THE THREE BOYS!



The time of this story was almost six hundred years before the birth of Christ. They were supposed to be prisoners, but now they are honored with outstanding jobs in Babylon. However, there was still a big problem. They are living where people worship idols. And here comes the problem... Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold. It was very large. Then the command to the people was to kneel down and worship the image. These people worshipped many gods, so another one to worship was not a problem to the people, unless you worshipped only the one true God.



The rule was this—when music was heard, fall down and worship the idol or you would be burned alive in the fiery furnace.

But when your Lord is the God of Heaven, you are not going to kneel down to an idol of stone. Nevertheless, it will take courage—yes, a lot of courage.

The people became quiet. All these people stopped where they were and bowed very low in the direction of the statue, that is, everyone except Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.

When they were brought to face the angry King Nebuchadnezzar, they stood tall, unashamed of their great God.

Read Daniel 3:17-18 and fill in the missing key words below:

“If it be so, our God whom we serve is \_\_\_\_\_ to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and \_\_\_\_\_ deliver us out of thine hand, O king.

But \_\_\_\_\_, be it known unto thee, O king, that we \_\_\_\_\_ thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.”

Read Daniel 3:19-25 and fill in the answers here as you read:

1. How many times hotter did they heat the furnace? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who did he command to bind them? “He commanded the \_\_\_\_\_ that were in his army.”
3. How many people did the king see inside the furnace? \_\_\_\_\_
4. The “extra” person had a form “like the \_\_\_\_\_.”

Would God protect the boys from this death? He didn’t have to. He was with them whether in life or death. God could have taken them immediately to Heaven, but God chose to use this testimony and honor these young boys.

At this moment, open your Bible and read the rest of the story in Daniel 3:26-30. You are reading about another miracle of God. Someday in Heaven you will meet Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Better than that, you will meet the great God who stood inside the furnace with them!

## *What Do We Learn?*

We learn from this story that God helps those who show courage to do what He wants. It is called obedience to God.

### *Memory Verse*

**“Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the Lord thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.” Deuteronomy 31:6**

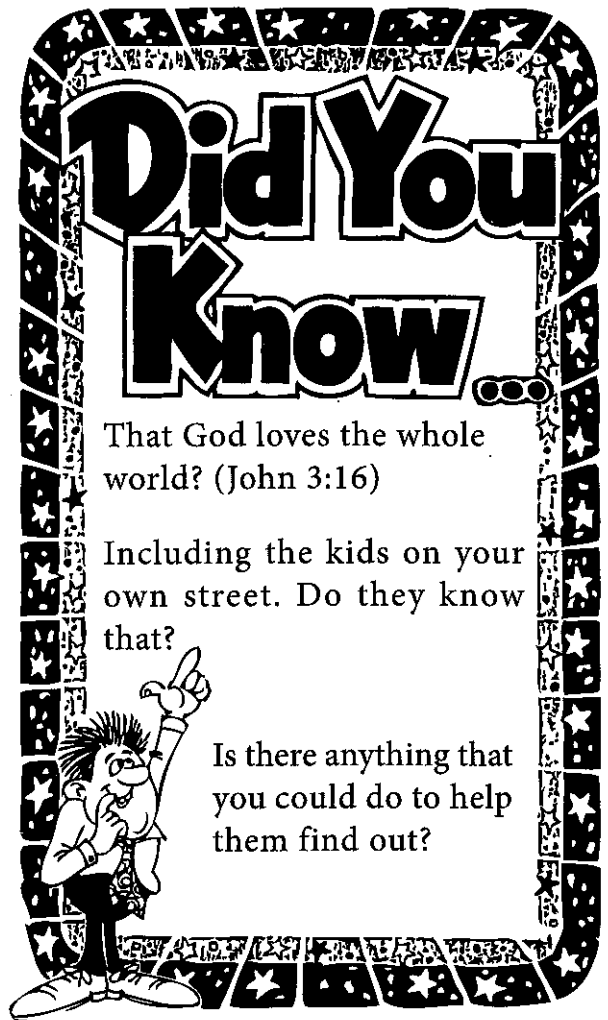
To finish your requirement for this Institute Lesson, be able to quote this verse to your leader. With your leader, talk about the importance of this verse in your life on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, etc.

Do you have the courage to tell others about Jesus Christ?

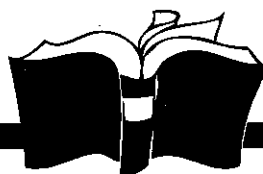
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to know how:

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_



**“Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.” Psalm 119:11**



by Adrianna Kassner

# A GIANT SPIT WAD!

Samuel once received a demerit for being a distraction to others in class. When his grandfather heard about what happened, he took Samuel for a long walk to the edge of town and up a hill. There, at the very top was an old cemetery. Samuel's grandfather pointed to the small grave of a young boy whom he once had known. Samuel was very curious. "How did he die?" he asked. His grandfather answered with the following story.

"His name was Zachariah. He was my friend when I was very young. We used to walk to the Aurora Valley schoolhouse together. Our teacher was Miss Kent. She was always getting on to Zachariah for behaving foolishly in class. He loved to draw attention to himself by making the other kids laugh."

"One day while Miss Kent was writing on the blackboard with her back turned to us, Zachariah tore a page out of his McGuffey Reader. Slowly, cautiously, he wadded it up and stuck it into his mouth. Then he swished it around really well. It wasn't just a little bitty spit wad—No! It was a whopper! With one forceful blow—SMACK!—it landed in the middle of the blackboard, sending streaks of saliva through Miss Kent's pretty cursive writing. In a flash she whirled around and grabbed the long switch she kept nearby."

"Zachariah, was that you?" she asked.

"No Ma'am," he answered. The whole class snickered.

Now, Miss Kent had been having trouble out of Zachariah for some time. She was fed up with his foolishness. I'd say she had a mind to lash his knuckles right then and there, but she didn't do it. Instead she decided to wait and catch him in the act.

"Did he ever spit a spit wad again?" Samuel asked.

"Yep, he did it the very next day. But she didn't catch him then either. A full week passed. Finally, one day she whirled around just after he placed a huge wad into his mouth. It startled him so much that he gasped and gulped it down. So, she didn't catch him after all."

"Is that the end?" Samuel asked.

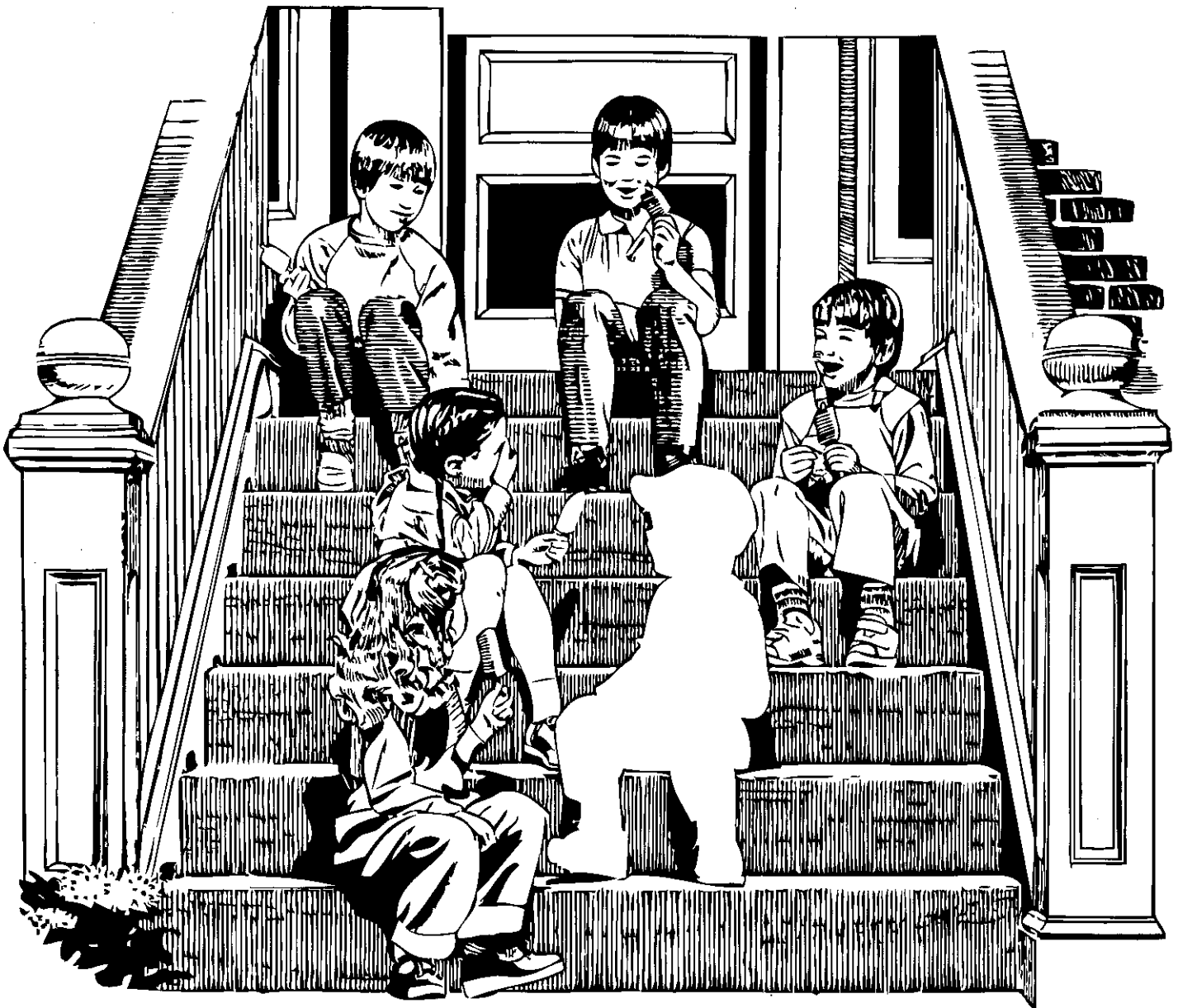
"Sadly, no it's not. For the rest of the day his stomach cramped and ached. By the time Zachariah got home, he was very ill. His mother noticed that he did not look very well. She gave him a tall glass of cold water. Of course he wasn't about to tell her that he had swallowed that spit wad; so he drank every drop from the glass and went to bed early."

"While he slept, the water he had drunk caused the paper wad to swell up in his stomach. Sometime later Zachariah was dead."

Samuel's eyes were wide.

"So," continued his grandfather, "the next time you are tempted to behave foolishly, just remember what happened to Zachariah. He might still be alive today if he had chosen to be attentive and well behaved."

Boys, girls, Zachariah never got to "grow-up" in his neighborhood, because he made fun in his classroom. Always listen to your teachers. God uses them to teach you the truth. Be attentive in the teaching time!



# What is the Lord's Supper?

Why do we do it this way?

Part 6

If the Lord God told us why and how to observe His supper, we should do it as close to His instructions as possible.

**Read Matthew 26:26-30**

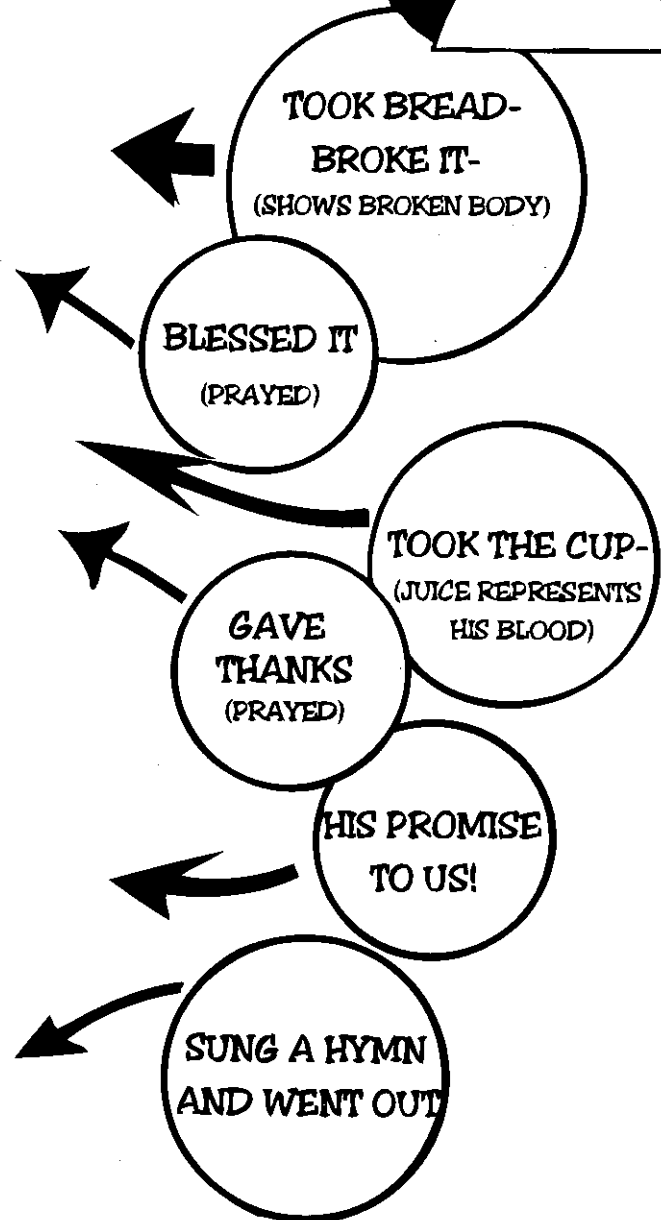
*“And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body.*

*And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it;*

*For this is my blood of the New Testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.*

*But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.*

*And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of olives.”*



# SUMMARY OF BIBLE STORY



In your own words, write below what you have learned from the story of the Fiery Furnace. What does it mean to you in your own life today? (Please print)

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Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_