

Lesson Fifteen

Faith When The Outcome Is Iffy At Best

Daniel 3 (Daniel's Friends)

1. The decision to obey is never an _____ one.
2. The decision to obey is made way before the time to take the _____.
3. The decision to obey is easier in group but _____ individually.
4. The decision to obey is based on who God _____ and not on what he will _____ for you.
5. The decision to obey is always _____ with God's faithful presence.

Commit this verse to memory: Daniel 3:17-18

Our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of your hand, o king. But if not, be it know to you, o king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.

Discussion Questions

I knew a woman named Ruth back in the 80s. She used to host our family when we traveled from Lebanon for a respite from war. She lived in Grand Rapids and took us blueberry picking. One summer, her house burned down taking everything with it.

It was devastating. Fire can be devastating.

But it can also be purifying – like the fire that the silversmith uses to refine silver.

In this lesson, we will see how 3 young men refused to worship an idol and faced the fire instead. This fire looked devastating but it was also hugely refining and pointed to the Lord and His glory.

If you're facing the fire right now, know that you're not alone. The same God who stood with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego stands with you today and that is no small thing when you're staring at the flames.

Let's ask the Lord to strengthen us as we learn how to stand strong when the outcome is iffy at best.

1. Are you facing a situation right now that you're just not sure how it's going to turn out? Explain.
2. How does the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego inspire you to act when the outcome in your life looks iffy at best?

3. Consider the fact that God allowed the three men to be cast into the fiery furnace, but was with them in the fire. How does that encourage you as you are facing your trial?
4. Read Isaiah 43:1- 2. What do those verses tell you about God, about your circumstances, and about the outcome God intends for you?
5. What are you doing today to prepare you for the day of testing when it comes?
6. The impact of the three men's faithfulness to God was global (Dan 3: 28-30). How does that motivate you to stand strong in what you know is right by God?