

EXILE: Courage In The Fire

Daniel 3:1-30

- I. **Followers of Jesus will be _____ with the idols of this world (3:1-7)**
- II. **Followers of Jesus will be _____ by the people of this world (3:8-12)**
- III. **Followers of Jesus will be _____ to worship the Gods of this world (3:13-15)**
- IV. **Followers of Jesus must be _____ in the face of danger in this world (3:16-18)**
- V. **Followers of Jesus should be _____ that the Lord is present and able to deliver, no matter what happens in this world (3:19-30)**

Communion / Reflection:

Isaiah 43:2 (ESV) - *When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.*

Romans 8:37-39 (ESV) - *No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

1 Peter 4:12-14 (ESV) - *Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though something strange were happening to you; but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing, so that at the revelation of His glory you may also rejoice and be overjoyed. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory, and of God, rests upon you.*

Hebrews 13:5b (NASB) - *“I will never desert you, nor will I ever abandon you,”*

Matthew 28:18-20 (ESV) - *And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”*

Life Group Discussion:

1. What are some situations in which you may have to show courage under fire the way Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego had to in Daniel chapter three?
2. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego faced enormous pressure to conform to the way of Babylon. Can you give any contemporary examples of how believers maybe pressured today, to reject the ways of Gods ways and to conform to the culture?
3. Identify modern forms of idol worship, which you believe has infiltrated the church?
4. How are you tempted to react when accusers and critics come against you? How does this line up with the reactions of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego?
5. When God doesn't deliver us from dangers, trials, disease, or even death, does that mean he has abandoned us? Why or why not?
6. Reflect on your life as a follower of Jesus. Have you ever faced a fiery furnace moment in order to remain faithful? Explain what happened.

Key:

- I. confronted
- II. criticized
- III. challenged
- IV. courageous
- V. confident