EASIER SAID THAN DONE

"WHEN THE WORLD PRESSURES YOUR FAITH"

NEW SERIES

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ACHING NOTE

Doing the right thing will always make some people angry!

Daniel 3:8-12 (NLT)

But some of the astrologers went to the king and informed on the Jews. They said to King Nebuchadnezzar, "Long live the king! You issued a decree requiring all the people to bow down and worship the gold statue when they hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipes, and other musical instruments. That decree also states that those who refuse to obey must be thrown into a blazing furnace. But there are some Jews, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, whom you have put in charge of the province of Babylon. They pay no attention to you, Your Majesty. They refuse to serve your gods and do not worship the gold statue you have set up."

Daniel 3:13-15 (NLT)

Then Nebuchadnezzar flew into a rage and ordered that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego be brought before him. When they were brought in, Nebuchadnezzar said to them, "Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that you refuse to serve my gods or to worship the gold statue I have set up? I will give you one more chance to bow down and worship the statue I have made when you hear the sound of the musical instruments. But if you refuse, you will be thrown immediately into the blazing furnace. And then what God will be able to rescue you from my power?"

3 THINGS TO DO WHEN MY FAITH IS PRESSURED?

DON'T SWEAT THE THREATS

Daniel 3:16 (NLT)

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego replied, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you."

BELIEVE GOD WILL SAVE ME

Daniel 3:17 (NLT)

If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God whom we serve is able to save us. He will rescue us from your power, Your Majesty.

Isaiah 43:2-3a (NLT)

"When you go through deep waters, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown. When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up; the flames will not consume you. For I am the LORD, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior."

COMMIT TO GOD AHEAD OF TIME

Daniel 3:18 (NLT)

"But even if He doesn't, we want to make it clear to you, Your Majesty, that we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up."

Daniel 3:19 (NLT)

Nebuchadnezzar was so furious with Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego that his face became distorted with rage. He commanded that the furnace be heated seven times hotter than usual.

Sometimes God saves us <u>FROM</u> the crisis, sometimes <u>THRU</u> the crisis and sometimes <u>BY</u> the crisis!

I Peter 1:6-7 (NLT)

So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you have to endure many trials for a little while. These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold, though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.

NEXT WEEK : DON'T CAVE - PART 2

We're so glad you joined us. If you would like more information about God, Jesus and the Bible, please talk with any of our church leaders. **Thank you for joining us!**