**PROVIDENCE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON GUIDE FOR ALL AGES (MAY 24, 2020**)

**Theme: Trusting In God Is the Answer**

**Objectives**

1. To familiarize children with the story of The Fiery Furnace
2. To encourage children to trust God even in difficult situations
3. To teach memory verse

**Resources Needed**

1. Bible
2. Hymn Book
3. Access to YouTube
4. Printed activity sheet and crayons
5. Paper for writing/pencils/pens (older children)

**Bible Reading**

Daniel 3: 8-30

**Lesson**

Key points

* King Nebuchadnezzar had made a golden image and commanded all the people to bow down and worship it when they heard special music. If they did not obey they would be thrown into a fiery furnace
* Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego did not obey the command
* The king sent for them. They told him they would not bow down and worship the image even if their God would not deliver them from the furnace.
* The furnace was heated up seven times hotter than normal. The men were thrown into it. The soldiers who threw them in were killed by the flames.
* Four men instead of three were later seen walking about in the furnace. The fourth had the appearance of a God.
* When the men came out of the furnace the king made a decree that no one should say anything bad against the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego.
* The men were also promoted to higher positions.

**Presentation:**

Read Bible passage – Daniel 3: 8-30

Beginners and primaries may listen to or watch the story on YouTube. - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q6TPo910LnY>

Older children will read the story then watch it on YouTube. Please note the differences between the YouTube version of the story and the bible.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vmD3zElmz98>

**Discussion:**

For the youngest children, let them tell what they remember. Help them to pronounce the name of the king and the names - Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego. Explain what a furnace is. Tell what the king did to the men and how God protected them.

For older children, review the story with the following questions:

1. What was the name of the king?
2. What did the king command all people to do?
3. Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego were in a frightening situation. They had disobeyed the king’s orders. What did they tell the king?
4. How were the men delivered from the fiery furnace?
5. What happened after they came out of the furnace?

For Reflection

vi. If you were in the men’s place, what do you think you would have done?

vii. State one way in which you can use your life to bring others to Christ.

For Seniors and Youth

* List the differences between the bible version and the YouTube version of the story.

Difference in Details

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Bible version | YouTube Version |
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Sometimes children’s stories and videos can be helpful for us to remember bible stories but many times the details are not the same as the bible version. There is importance in the detail! This is why it is always important to read the bible, as children’s stories and videos may present primarily for entertainment purposes but reading the bible serves much more purpose than entertainment. Unfortunately, there are a few times when people produce ‘bible’ videos to intentionally mislead. Always refer to the bible story to ensure you are not being misled. In God we can completely trust – people, not so much!

* Write down or share some situations when you were laughed at or people were unkind to you because you stood strong in your faith. Share situations where you did not stand strong in your faith and you ended up following the crowd when you shouldn’t.

**Activities**

1. Learn memory verse – Psalm 62: 8

“Trust in Him at all times. God is a refuge for us”

1. See activity sheets

**Closing**

Lead children to realize that:

* God goes through our situations with us
* It is our duty to obey God rather than men
* God is faithful
* In difficult situations we can trust that things will work together for good either in this life or in heaven

**Sing:** Voices In Praise - Hymn # 275

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LzttxQI19LQ**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LzttxQI19LQ)

**Prayer:**

Let children say:

Loving God, I thank you for your promise never to leave us nor forsake us. You hold all our lives in your hands and we know we can trust you. Lord, I praise you and I thank you for your loving kindness, your guidance and your provision. Forgive us when we failed to obey you and followed the crowd when we shouldn’t have. Help us not to be afraid but give us the courage to love and serve you even in difficult situations knowing that you are with us.

 In your name I pray, Amen.



Colour and Identify the heroes of the story.





