

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

THE GOD OF DELIVERANCE

DANIEL 3:8–30

FEBRUARY 6, 2022

DISCUSSION 1: THE DILEMMA

1. What are some of the reasons it would have been tempting for these three Hebrews to worship the golden image? What are some ways they might even have tried to justify doing so?
2. Despite all the reasons others probably gave them for bowing down to the king's idol, why do you think they ultimately did not do so?
3. How had following God in the midst of danger—and not going the ways of everyone else around them—already paid off for these three men in chapter one? Do you think they would have drawn in this past lesson and example of God's faithfulness? Why or why not?

DISCUSSION 2: THE DECISION

1. Read 3:15-19 again. What does the king say in 3:15 that might reveal his view of himself and his view of God?
2. Why do think their response in 3:16-18 leads the king to get so angry (3:19)?
3. What do you learn about faith and trust based on their response in 3:17-18 and 3:28?
4. How might we apply this posture—looking to God in faith that He can deliver us and yet also trusting Him if chooses not to do so in a specific trial—to our own lives today?
5. Read 3:28 again. What does this tell us about how important true worship is and how dangerous idolatry is for our souls?

DISCUSSION 3: THE FIRE AND FLAMES

1. Can you think of other stories, verses, or examples in the Bible where it talks about God going with his people through fires, floods, trials, and pains?

2. Though the text doesn't say for sure, why do you think God might have chosen to allow these three men to enter the fire (with him present) versus orchestrating events so they were never thrown into the fire in the first place?
3. Why do you think there's a level of knowing God, our faith being built up, and learning true dependence that only happens when we walk through trials?
4. Can you think of times or examples when God has allowed you to walk into a fire, deep waters, or enter a storm, and yet looking back, you can see at least part of why He allowed it because of the good plans He had for you in it or through it?
5. What is one trial you are in right now where you need to remember that God is with you and that He has good plans for you? How can this group be praying for your faith to grow and endure in the midst of this trial? Are there other ways they can encourage you or walk with you?

RESOURCES ON DANIEL

- [Daniel commentary by Iain Duguid](#)
- The Bible Project's overview of Daniel, found at bibleproject.com or on [Youtube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=811111111111). See also their video on "[Exile](#)."
- ESV.org's "[Introduction to Daniel](#)."
- "[Introduction to Daniel](#)" at thegospelcoalition.org.
- "[6 Insights You Didn't Notice in the Book of Daniel](#)" at crosswalk.com
- [ESV Scripture Journal: Daniel](#)