



Sunday, March 12, 2017 | Small Group Discussion Notes

Introduction: Why is it easier to navigate a crisis if you've planned ahead for that potential situation? Give an example of a survival technique you've heard about.

Read Daniel 3:1-30

1. Have you ever had to be brave in a crisis (where you realize the danger and take action anyway)? What happened? Did you have time to think about your response? Did Daniel's friends (Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego...abbreviated to "SMA") have time to think about their response in this story?
2. What difference does it make that SMA were able to make this stand together?
3. SMA were certain that God was able to deliver them from the fiery furnace. Read v16-18. Why? What contributed to their confidence? (Their nation was defeated, they'd been taken from their homes, and likely separated from their families.)
4. What needs to be in place for us to be able to respond bravely in difficult situations? What would steal our confidence?
5. Follow Nebuchadnezzar's emotions throughout this chapter. Describe his emotions at the following points: The construction of the statue. The news of non-conformists. When SMA were getting thrown in the furnace. When he saw the 4 walking in the fire. When SMA came out of the furnace not even smelling like smoke.
6. Discuss the following statement: "Sometimes God saves us from the furnace, but sometimes God decides to deliver us in the furnace." What have you learned about God in each scenario?
7. Have you ever thought about how you would defend your faith if you were in a situation like SMA? Do you think you'll ever have too?

Love/Abide/Bless: How can my story, or my confidence in God's love and provision, be used to bless others this week?