

A script from



## “Friends, Faith and Fiery Furnaces”

by  
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**What** Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego are faced with losing their lives because of their faith in God. **Themes:** Courage, Strength, Trusting God, VBS, Kids Church

**Who** Narrator  
Actor 1  
Actor 2  
Actor 3  
Actor 4- onstage briefly, no lines

**When** Present

**Wear (Props)** Modern casual clothes  
Step stool or sturdy box  
Crown- the more “craft”-like it looks, the better  
Music- fanfare or sound effect of orchestra warming up  
4 sticks with marshmallows

**Why** Daniel 3; Proverbs 3:5-6

**How** This script is troupe-style, or ensemble, storytelling. Timing and pacing are important. The pacing should be very upbeat and many of the lines should be right on top of each other. All actors should move with confidence and lots of energy. Have fun!

For the director: A trick you might use to get the actors to keep the energy and pacing up is to have them run through the sketch as fast as they can while still in character and pronouncing their words clearly.

**Time** Approximately 6 minutes

*Narrator and Actors enter and address the audience.*

**Narrator:** Have you ever been at someone's house and they wanted to watch a movie or something on their computer that you knew you shouldn't watch?

*Actors 1, 2 and 3 are facing the audience and strike a pose as if they've just seen something inappropriate they shouldn't be looking at.*

Or maybe there's a kid at school at school that your friends make fun of and you know it's just not right.

*Actors 1 and 2 point and laugh at Actor 3 who looks sad; they hold this pose.*

Or maybe everyone around you uses words that you know you shouldn't say

*Actors 1, 2 and 3 slap their hands over their mouths as if they just said something they shouldn't.*

Well, we want to tell you a story about 3 guys,

**Actor 2:** ...who were thrown into a fiery pit!

**Actor 3:** All because they loved God

**Narrator:** And refused to bow down to any god, except the One True God. Their names were—

**Actor 1:** Ooh, ooh! I knew this! They were Shama-lama-ding-dong, Mech-a-lech and To-bed-we go!

**Narrator:** Close. They were Shadrach, *(pointing towards Actor 1)*

**Actor 2:** Meshach

**Actor 3:** And Abednego.

**Narrator:** This is the story of how these 3 brave young men stood up to a king-

**Actor 1:** Ooh I know this one too! King Nebu-fuzzy-sweater!

**Narrator:** King Nebuchadnezzar. The Bible tells us in Daniel that King Nebuchadnezzar gathered young men from all over who were smart *(strike a pose that shows they're smart i.e. thinking man)*, strong *(strike a pose flexing their muscles)* and handsome *(strike a model pose as if for a camera)* to serve at his court. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were

three of those young men, but they were also something else. They were wise and trusted in God with all their hearts. One day King Nebby decided to build a huge golden statue.

*Narrator steps up on a stool or box and becomes the "official".*

**Actor 3:** When the music played, he commanded that everyone bow down to the golden image.

**Narrator:** *(As an official)* When the music plays, the king commands that everyone bow down to the golden image. That means you!

*Gives Actors 1, 2 and 3 a stern look; then does the "I'm watching you" motion pointing to his eyes and then pointing out at the audience. All actors look at the "statue" facing the audience and up, as if the statue is before them.*

Musicians! Strike up the band!

*Music plays. It can be the sound of an orchestra warming up. Actors 2 and 3 are looking at the statue and everyone (make-believe) bowing down around them. Actor 1 is jamming to the music, but not too big.*

**Narrator:** Stop! Stop the music! Stop the music!

*Music stops; Actor 1 continues to dance; everyone watches him for a few seconds.*

You three.

*Actor 1 still dancing, Actor 3 elbows him and motions towards the Narrator.*

Yes, you three. Why are you not bowing down? Is there something wrong with the bendy parts of your legs? Did you forget how to bow? Are you deaf, did you not hear the music?

**Actor 2:** No, sir. We just choose not to, because we follow the One True God and we will not bow down to anyone but Him.

**Narrator:** You guys are in soooo much trouble. I'm telling the king! *(To offstage)* Kiiiiinnnggg!

**Actor 1:** So Shadrach

**Actor 2:** Meshach

**Actor 3:** And Abednego were brought before King Nebuchadnezzar. And boy was he mad!

**Narrator:** *(Puts on crown and becomes the king)* I am so mad! Who DARES not obey me and bow down to the golden statue! This is an outrage! You three! Stand before me and be afraid! Be very afraid!! If you don't obey me and bow down to the golden statue when the music plays, then I will throw you in a super fiery pit! I'm talking one hot oven! *(Furious they're not shaking in fear)* I'm not kidding!

**Actor 2:** *(Shrugs)* Okay.

**Narrator:** What?!

**Actor 1:** Yeah, we're cool with that. *(Realizes his joke)* Hey, get it? We're cool? The fiery pit is hot. And we're cool?

**Actor 3:** Yeah, yeah we get it.

**Actor 2:** King Nebuchadnezzar, no disrespect, but you can't scare us! We won't bow down and we're not afraid of your super fiery furnace! Our God will deliver us!

**Narrator:** Don't test me. I'll do it! I mean it! I'll throw you in the fire! You'll burn up and boy are you gonna regret it!

*Actors 1, 2 and 3 are unaffected. Actor 1 yawns, Actor 2 checks his watch, Actor 3 starts whistling and nonchalantly looking around. They're not affected at all as the King throws a fit.*

**Narrator:** Nothing?

**Actor 2:** We told you, King. We won't bow.

**Narrator:** That's it! Away with you! *(Takes off the crown and steps off the stool/box and becomes Narrator)* So the king sent

**Actor 1:** Shadrach

**Actor 2:** Meshach

**Actor 3:** And Abednego

**Narrator:** away to be thrown into the fiery furnace! The king was so mad that he ordered the furnace be fired up 7 times hotter than normal! He had

**Actor 1:** Shadrach

**Actor 2:** Meshach

**Actor 3:** And Abednego

**Narrator:** Bound up, hands and feet. They were thrown in to the super-hot fiery furnace, completely dressed in their clothes with their hands and feet bound!

*The 3 actors can simply sit on the steps or the edge of the stage. Hidden, there are 4 sticks with marshmallows on that they pass out. A fourth person joins them sitting on the stage. This person can be sitting on the front row and as soon as Actors 1, 2 and 3 sit, the 4<sup>th</sup> person joins them. (He/she can pass out the sticks with marshmallows.)*

The furnace was so hot, that the men who threw them in were burned up! Yikes! The king, watched on as the 3 brave young men fell into the furnace. *(Puts on the crown and becomes the king again; he steps up on the stool/box looking down into the "furnace")* What's this? Are you guys seeing this? *(Mentally counting)* You know, my math isn't that great, but I thought there were three men we threw in that pit. But now I'm counting four. *(Counts again; counts on his fingers)* This isn't right! What is that? They're just down there like nothing's happening!

*With the next line, the 4<sup>th</sup> person returns to their seat or exits the stage. Actors 1, 2, and 3 join the Narrator back on stage.*

**Actor 3:** Nebuchadnezzar called for the men to come out of the furnace.

**Actor 2:** Once they were out he examined them to figure out just how they were still alive!

**Actor 1:** He couldn't believe it!

**Narrator:** I can't believe it! This is amazing!

**Actor 2:** The Bible says in the book of Daniel that the 3 men were completely unharmed. Their clothes weren't burned at all.

**Actor 3:** In fact, not even a hair on their head was singed!

**Actor 1:** I'm so glad I have still have my eyebrows.

**Narrator:** Nebuchadnezzar was so amazed that the 3 men were still alive, that he knew it must be their God who saved them. He commended Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego for sticking to their faith and not bowing down, even though it meant they would pay with their lives.

**Actor 2:** So, the next time someone makes fun of you because you choose to follow your faith and not follow the crowd,

**Actor 3:** When you're faced with doing what's right instead of what's easy,

**Actor 1:** When choosing to obey God means you might lose a friend,

**Narrator:** Don't be afraid. Be strong and courageous and know that God loves you and He's right there with you.

**Actor 2:** Just like God was the only one who could save Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego from the fiery furnace,

**Actor 3:** Jesus is the only one who can save us from our sins.

**Narrator:** Will you trust Him today?

*Lights out.*

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