



Part 8: Walking in the Fire

Pastor Grant Fishbook

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## Conviction Before the Crucible

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Resolve and Respect (*Daniel 1:8*)

Rapport and Reputation (*Daniel 1:19*)

Intelligence and Interpretation (*Daniel 1:20-23*)

**God uses the “crucible moments” of life  
to deepen our convictions about his faithfulness.**

## Character During the Crucible

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### Courage

“But there are some Jews whom you have set over the affairs of the province of Babylon—Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego—who pay no attention to you, O king. They neither serve your gods nor worship the image of gold you have set up.”

– *Daniel 3:12*

### Conviction

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to the king, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter. If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to save us from it, and he will rescue us from your hand, O king. But even if he does not, we want you to know, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up.”

– *Daniel 3:16-18*

### Deliverance

Then King Nebuchadnezzar leaped to his feet in amazement and asked his advisers, “Weren’t there three men that we tied up and threw into the fire?”

They replied, “Certainly, O king.”

He said, “Look! I see four men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and the fourth looks like a son of the gods.” – *Daniel 3:24-25*

**God did not deliver Shadrach, Meshach  
and Abednego from the furnace;  
He delivered them in the furnace.**

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## Devotion

Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before.

– Daniel 6:10

## Desperation

So the king gave the order, and they brought Daniel and threw him into the lions' den. The king said to Daniel, "May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you!" – Daniel 6:16

**God did not deliver Daniel from the lion's den;  
He delivered him in the lion's den.**

## The Shining Results of the Crucible

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### **Declaration #1: Praise**

Then Nebuchadnezzar said, "Praise be to the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who has sent his angel and rescued his servants! They trusted in him and defied the king's command and were willing to give up their lives rather than serve or worship any god except their own God." – Daniel 3:28

### **Declaration #2: Conversion**

Then King Darius wrote to all the peoples, nations and men of every language throughout the land: "May you prosper greatly! I issue a decree that in every part of my kingdom people must fear and reverence the God of Daniel. For he is the living God and he endures forever; his kingdom will not be destroyed, his dominion will never end. He rescues and he saves; he performs signs and wonders in the heavens and on the earth. He has rescued Daniel from the power of the lions." – Daniel 6:25-27

**God can use your personal conviction  
to influence more than just you!**

### **On Your Way Home**

Have you ever seen someone display courage? What did they do and how did it affect the way you viewed them?

#### **Small Group Discussion Questions**



- 1) We've all been brave at some point in time, whether we were recognized for it or not. What's a courageous act that you have done?
- 2) We often run from pain, believing that it is bad. How do you respond to the truth that God did not save our biblical friends from their situation but in their trial?
- 3) Has your faith ever been put through the fire? What did you learn about your faith during that time?
- 4) Read 1 Peter 4:12-16. What are the reasons Peter gives for rejoicing during persecution?
- 5) What crucible moment are you facing right now?
- 6) How can we pray for you tonight?