



THE SHIELD OF FAITH

Living with Active Faith

This week focuses on the Shield of Faith. Roman soldiers carried their shields in front of them as they went to battle. The shields were made of wood, iron, and leather to protect the soldier. It could cover the soldier's whole body when he crouched down. The shield could extinguish any fiery arrows that hit it. Having an active faith by trusting in God is a Christian's shield.

KEY VERSE: “Also pick up the shield of faith. With it you can put out all of the flaming arrows of the evil one.” Ephesians 6:16 (Younger version: Pick up the shield of faith to put out the flaming arrows.)

BIBLE STORY: Daniel 3:1-30

- Read today's Bible story about Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in Daniel 3:1-30 together.

- Ask the following review questions:

Q1: Why did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego not worship the king's statue? A1: *They only worshiped God, not the king's idol.*

Q2: What did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego tell the king? A2: *God could rescue them from the fire; they would not worship the statue.* (v. 17-18)

Q3: What did the king do when he saw the men were not harmed? A3: *He praised the One True God and rewarded Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.* (v. 26-30)

Q4: What do you think God wants us to learn from the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego? A4: *Having faith in God means trusting Him to keep his promises; we can trust God to help us in hard times.* Q5: How can Christians use their Shield of Faith?

A5: *We can remember God's promises and trust Him to help us when Satan tries to distract or attack us.*

GO DEEPER THIS WEEK

1. Read Daniel 1:7-16 How else did Daniel and his friends show faith in God?
2. Read Mark 11:22 to encourage you to practice having more faith.
3. Read Romans 1:17 to encourage you to keep acting in faith.
4. Read Ephesians 2:8 to see who you the faith you need.

PRAY AND JOURNAL

- God is all-powerful. He is all-knowing. He is everywhere. He is holy and perfect. Express how knowing this makes you feel. You can write it down or share your feelings with someone you love.
- Since God can do anything and He knows everything, He can make it possible for you to do whatever He asks of you. He might be asking you to talk to someone about Jesus. He might want you to have a better attitude toward your brother or sister. Is God inviting you to accept His as your Savior? These are things that you cannot do in your own strength, but you can do them with God's power. If you feel God is asking you to do something particular, pray about it. Ask God to strengthen your faith in Him. You can write your prayer down and share it with someone you love so they can pray with you!
- This week's prayer plan:

