

Week of March 5, 2017

Questions for Ohana

Living in Babylon: Seven Times Hotter

Daniel 3:16-30

ICE BREAKER: What is a large or awe inspiring statue you have seen? Where was it?

A. Review Daniel 3:13-15

1. Why would the three Jews not bow to the image?
2. Why is the first commandment the central and most important teaching in the Old Testament? (see Ex.20: 1-6)
3. One person defined worship as “anything that you bow before, sing to, or offer your devotion. It is where you give the best that God has given you.” Do you agree? Other than church where do you see worship in our culture?
4. How would God assess your worship to Him? (whole hearted, lukewarm, twisted, idolatry, dead, confused, empty, passionate)

B. Read Daniel 3:16-18

1. Why don't the three Jews defend themselves?
2. What is their understanding of what God should do in their crisis?

C. Read Daniel 3:19-30 with some as king Neb, someone as narrator and all as advisers.

1. What changed in the king? What did not change?
2. From the perspective of the 3, what emotions do you imagine they are experiencing before, during and after the furnace?
3. Roll play what might have been the conversation in the furnace. Select three people for Shad, Mad and Bad and one to be the fourth (v. 25)
4. How do you think this experience of Shad, Mad and Bad changed the way they worshipped in the future?
5. King Neb issued a new decree of worship. Why? What does he still not understand about worshipping God?

APPLICATION

Daniel 3 gives us a glimpse from inside the furnace. How does this passage affect your understanding of Christians who have been recently martyred by ISIS or others? How does it impact your understanding of any kind of death for the Christian? How is God wanting to change your heart of worship this Sunday? What practical things is the Holy Spirit telling you to do differently?

PRAY as a Group

Read Daniel 3:28 in unison as a prayer of praise. Now read verse 28 together using the names of each person in the group instead of Shad, Mad and Bad (e.g., “Praise be to the God of Jonathan, Patricia, Matthew, ... who has sent his angel ...)

Pray that a devoted heart of worship and obedience to God would be in each person and would be lived practically this week.

