Daniel in the Lion’s Den
Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego

Memory Verse:

“As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.” Joshua 24:15

Bible Research: (Daniel 1-2-3-6)

Daniel 6:22:

My God sent His angels and He shut the mouths of the lions.”

Proverbs 16:4:

“The Lord works out everything for His own ends.”

Story:

In the story of Daniel, we discover that King Nebuchadnezzar gave orders that healthy, Hebrew boys be captured and brought to his palace in Babylon. Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah were taken to the king’s palace and given a new Babylonian name. Daniel was given the name Beltashazzar, Hananiah was named Shadrach, Mishael was called Meshach and Azariah was named Abednego. Because Daniel knew the king’s food was not the kind of food God wished them to eat, he asked that he and his friends be given different food than the Babylonian boys. Daniel and his friends were healthier than the other boys and God also gave them more wisdom. God gave Daniel the ability to interpret or understand the meaning of dreams. Daniel and his friends soon became the king’s wise men. One night, King Nebuchadnezzar had a frightening dream, but he could not remember it. His spirit was very troubled and he was very scared. He called all his magicians and astrologers before him and asked that they tell him what the dream was about. The king was very superstitious and did not trust in the Lord. All the magicians, astrologers and counselors of the king could not interpret his dream and he ordered them all killed. Daniel told the king he could explain his dream. Daniel and his friends prayed for guidance from
God and Daniel explained the dream to the king. The king was very impressed with Daniel’s ability to explain the dream, but refused to believe in Daniel’s God. The king demanded that a golden statue be made and that all must worship the statue. Daniel’s friends: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused to worship this false god and pledged their love and faith in our Lord. The king had the three boys thrown into the furnace and had it heated up seven times hotter than usual. The guards cast the boys into the furnace. God sent an angel to protect the boys from the fire. The king saw that the boys were still alive and heated the furnace even more and the guards around the furnace were burned from the heat which radiated from the furnace and still the angel of the Lord protected the children from the fire. The boys came out of the furnace alive and well and unharmed. The king and all his counselors praised God’s name and believed.

When King Nebuchadnezzar died, King Belshazzar became the ruler. He was foolish and brought back the golden idols his father had taken out of the palace. God wrote on the wall of the palace and Daniel interpreted the writing. He told King Belshazzar that his time as king was over. Darius then became king and he made Daniel a special counselor in his palace. The other counselors were very angry and jealous of Daniel. They schemed to get Daniel in trouble with the king. One day, King Darius passed a law that everyone needed to worship his golden statue. Daniel refused to worship the statue because he loved our Lord. Because Daniel refused, Darius had Daniel thrown into the lions’ den. Once again, God sent an angel to protect Daniel from the lions. When Darius saw how God protected Daniel from the lions, he passed a law that all his people would worship Daniel’s God. Daniel was truly one of God’s “superheroes” because he stood up for what he believed and he never lost his devotion and love for God.

Note:

Teachers, please feel free to add or change the wording when you present this to the children. This is a condensed version, as per the Old Testament from Daniel.