FAITHFUL Followers

Memory Verse: "*God rescues and saves people. God does mighty miracles in heaven and on earth.*"
Daniel 6:27

Big Idea: ***God rescues His people because He loves.***

Bible Story: Shadrach and Friends | Daniel 3

Gear Up - Arrival

Greet children as they enter the classroom. Mark them present using your iPad and/or paper roster.

Opening Activities: Engage with the kids in your room as they play and interact with designated games and activities as time allows. Use this opportunity to ask kids about their week, discuss their interests, and encourage them to connect with one another!

Memory Verse Game - Say What?

What you'll need: No supplies needed
How to Play:
Scouts (K-2): Say the verse out loud together in different voices (robot, animal, whisper, shout) or with different actions (tiptoe, stomp, hop). Repeat in fun ways.

Navigators (3-5): Say the verse out loud together. Then decide which words to emphasize with a different voice, louder or softer volume, or movements. Repeat in fun ways.

Bible Time – Bible Book Catch

What you'll need: a soft ball or throwable object
How to play: Gather the kids in a circle. Using the Books of the Bible poster in your classroom, a leader will toss a ball or soft object to a kid and choose the New Testament or the Old Testament. The catcher names a book in that testament and then tosses the ball to a different kid, and the catcher names the book of the Bible that follows the first book named. Tossing and catching continues as kids name the books of the Bible in order.

Get-To-Know-You Game – And This Is …

What you'll need: No supplies needed
How to Play: In a circle, each person says their name and a fun fact about themselves. Then the next person in the circle repeats the **previous person's name and fun fact** before **adding their own name and fun fact**.

Gear Up - Welcome – 5 minutes

Begin 10 minutes after the service time starts (Ex. 9:40 at the 9:30 experience).

Gather kids together in a space where they can see the TV.
Take a moment to **welcome** the kids to KXP and let them know how glad you are that they are here!

PRAY FIRST! We want to model this for our kids. Take a moment to pray for the time together and for the kids in your room.

Lesson Introduction – 5 minutes

Share the Lesson Intro with the class before starting the **KXP lesson video**. Challenge them to listen and pay attention during the Bible Story.

Say: *"Hey KXP! I'm so glad to be with you today! It's hard to believe this is the last month in our semester series called Faithful Followers. Our Big Ideas have taught us that God instructs, leads, calls, and saves His people because He loves them. God does all of that for us because we can't do it for ourselves. The people of Israel couldn't do it for themselves either. Our final Big Idea wraps everything up. It is that* ***God rescues His people because He loves.*** *I'm so grateful that God loves me and had a plan all along to rescue me from my sins. Let's dive into today's true story from the Bible to see how God rescued some friends from a very heated situation."*

Play the KXP lesson video in your classroom.

Bible Story – 10 minutes

Leaders, please read the Bible story below before Sunday to prepare for discussion.

Shadrach and Friends | Daniel 3

The Israelites found themselves in a land where the leaders worshiped false gods and wanted everyone to worship their false gods too. That was going to be a problem for God's people. His people knew that God wanted them to worship Him ONLY!

Let's start reading in the book of Daniel chapter 3 verse 1, ***"King Nebuchadnezzar made a gold statue. It was 90 feet tall and 9 feet wide... Then the king sent for the royal rulers, high officials and governors... And he sent for all the other officials of Babylon... to come to a special gathering to honor the statue he had set up."*** The king had a huge statue built. It was 90 feet tall. That is the height of 9 basketball goals stacked on top of each other. The king was proud and now wanted everyone to come and see the statue. He put his time, energy, focus, and money toward something he believed in - the statue.

Daniel 3:4-5 "Then a messenger called out loudly, 'Listen, you people who come from every nation! Pay attention, you who speak other languages! Here is what the king commands you to do... You will hear all kinds of music. When you do, you must fall down and worship the gold statue.'" After this announcement, everyone came to see the golden statue, but soon things would change. Music began to play and the king ordered everyone to worship the statue together.

Next, the people found out what the king would do if they chose **NOT** to worship the gold statue. ***Daniel 3:7 "If you don't (worship the statue), you will be thrown into a blazing furnace right away."*** Anyone who did not worship the statue was going to be thrown into the fire. Wow! That was a terrible price to pay if they didn't worship the king's gold statue. God's people had to make a choice. They could follow God's way and worship Him **ONLY** or they could follow the king's way and worship a false god.

Daniel 3:16-18 "Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to the king, 'O King Nebuchadnezzar, we don't need to talk about this anymore. We might be thrown into the blazing furnace, but the God we serve is able to bring us out of it alive. He will save us from your power, but we want you to know this, Your Majesty. Even if we knew our God wouldn't save us, we still wouldn't serve your gods. We wouldn't worship the gold statue you set up.'"

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were going to follow God's way no matter what. They would not worship the gold statue. They chose to worship God, whom they believed in. If each man had been alone, it might have been really hard to follow God's way when they knew they would be thrown into the fire. But thankfully they had each other. They were friends who helped and encouraged each other to worship God ONLY. We have each other too! Being around others who believe in God and His Son, Jesus, encourages and helps us grow in our faith.

The three friends were in an impossible situation. Worship a false god or be burned in the fire. Shadrach and his friends made the choice to stay faithful to the One True God. And I can't wait for you to hear what happened next! God stepped in and did something only HE could do.

Let's keep reading in Daniel chapter 3, verse 24 ***"Then Nebuchadnezzar leaped to his feet. He was so amazed he asked his advisers, 'Didn't we tie up three men? Didn't we throw three men into the fire?' They replied, 'Yes, we did, our Majesty.' The king said, 'Look! I see four men walking around in the fire. They aren't tied up. And the fire hasn't even harmed them. The fourth man looks like a son of the gods.' Then the king approached the opening of the blazing furnace. He shouted 'Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, come out! You who serve the Most High God, come here!' So they came out of the fire... They saw that the fire hadn't harmed their bodies.***

Not one hair on their heads was burned. Their robes weren't burned either. And they didn't even smell like smoke."

The men were thrown into the fire, but God rescued them, and they were not harmed at all. The friends didn't even smell like smoke when they came out! These three friends faced walking into a fiery furnace. That was really hard! But they stayed faithful to God and followed Him no matter what.

Lesson Recap –15 minutes

After the video has ended, **share the Lesson Conclusion** with the class.

Say: "*Today, we can face some hard things in our lives too. It might not be a fiery furnace, but you will face hard things like telling the truth no matter what, standing up to a bully, or saying no to harmful things and people. Find those people around you who can encourage and help you to follow God and choose His ways. The church is a great place to find people who love God. It is an awesome place to help you learn more about Jesus. Thanks for joining me today! Make sure to come back next week for another true story from the Bible."*

Direct the kids to the **Memory Verse** and **Big Idea** posters in your room. Have your class read them together out loud. Celebrate the kids for paying attention and listening well!

Close in Prayer – 3 to 5 minutes

Ask the kids in your room to share any **prayer requests** they have. Give them a moment to **fill out prayer cards** or **choose a prayer prompt** to take home. Then **pray over them**!

- **P**RAISE - *Open with adoration.*
- **R**EPENT - *Recall and connect the Big Idea from the Bible Story to yourself and the kids.*
- **A**SK - *Petition the Lord on the kids' behalf.*
- **Y**IELD - *Close by giving thanks to God for His perfect plan.*

Live It Out – 5 to 8 minutes | Trust Card

Leaders: Lead the kids in a conversation about trusting God.

- Ask the kids this question – What do you trust God to help you with? *(possible answers include: my relationships with family and friends, to keep me safe, to help me learn and grow, to do my best, to show kindness to others, etc.)*
- Give each kid a notecard and have them begin to write down their responses.
- Encourage the kids to take their **trust card** home and share it with their family. They can continue filling it up together.

Recall Questions:

- What idol did King Nebuchadnezzar have built? *(a statue made of gold)*
- What did he command the people to do when they heard the horns and music playing? *(bow down & worship the gold statue)*
- Who chose not to bow down and worship the gold statue? *(Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego)*

Discussion & Application Questions:

- Why did the three men choose not to bow down to the king's idol?
- What is one thing you learned from today's lesson?
- How will you use what you learned this week?

Leave No Trace – End of the Hour

- As parents arrive to pick up children, have the **kids work together to clean up** the classroom.
- **Thank them** for coming and **encourage them to invite a friend** and come back next week!
- Children can **finish opening activities** while waiting on their parents.

Scouts & Navigators Explorer Guide
Week 2 | June 14, 2026