

October 25, 2026
Daniel Series
Main Text

Pastor Trey Hildebrant
The Fiery Furnace
Daniel 3

Discussion Questions

Belong: Icebreaker

When you were in school, what was the predominant peer pressure you felt “pressured” to cave into? How was this peer pressure communicated? Looking back now, how would you tell your younger self to handle that pressure?

Welcome to the **“Daniel: Far from Home** series**”**.

Today, we are in week two of a SEVEN-week series through the OT book of Daniel called **Far from Home** – we are **far from home** spiritually and this impacts how we live in this culture.

The world is **complex**. We experience fear and confusion as we look to the future and try to navigate life. ***Follower of Jesus or not***, we can all admit that there is worry about how to live today and prepare for tomorrow.

Concerns about the economy, politics, global relations, our collective morals and values as a culture, anger and division, relationship tensions…from raising kids, watching the news just waiting for the next shoe to drop, another bombshell report affecting everything from gas prices to the price of a hamburger! The rise of AI and the never-ending swirl of technology giving rise to even more worry about the future.

We live in a **complex and confusing** time. We have tons of questions with no easy answers. Over the course of the next few weeks, we will talk about questions like these:

- What's my role in today's constantly shifting culture?
- Can I live boldly for Jesus in my career in the 21st century?
- How should I respond when someone says my Christian views are unloving?
- How do I help my kids engage in a culture without losing them to it?
- Can we engage culture without compromising our faith?

Believe:

Read Daniel 3:1-7

What do you notice about King Nebuchadnezzar in this story? What do you think is true about the people? What would it take to stand up to this kind of pressure?

Read Daniel 2:47

How could King Nebuchadnezzar make a statement like this about the One True God, and then demand people worship a false idol? What does this tell you about his first experience with the God of Israel?

Read Daniel 2:48-49; 3:8-12

Who is drawing attention to themselves and why? What is really going on here in this part of the story?

"When we live transformed, Babylon notices. What's so interesting is how surprised and offended others are when we don't worship what they worship. Pressure forms against

us when we don't bow to the same ideas, ideology, feelings, or ambitions as Babylon." Pastor Trey Hildebrant

What did Babylon notice about Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego?

What or who did Babylon worship?

Become:

Read Daniel 3:16-18

When faced with this defining moment, what did they choose? How did this impact them? What were they willing to do instead of bow? Where was their faith firmly rooted?

*"When faced with the proposition to bow to the idol or stand for God, **they choose God**. They carry this great confidence in God's power to deliver in tension with their commitment to God… **EVEN IF** He doesn't literally deliver them from the fire. " Pastor Trey Hildebrant*

Who do you know in your everyday life who has faith like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego? How does their faith inspire you?

Read Daniel 3:19-27

In the conclusion to the rest of this story, what do you learn about God? Shadrach, Meshach, and Aabednego?What does the king call the God of Shardrach, Meshach and Abednego?

Who was the fourth man in the fire? What extra detail do you find surprising about this story?

What does knowing that they were NOT alone in the fire communicate to you?

Share about a time when you felt like you were in a fiery furnace of trials, circumstances, or peer pressure and you were able to come through that situation because of Jesus. What did you learn?

Read Romans 10:9-11

Who is our true source of hope? What promise is communicated to us in this New Testament passage?

Closing:

- Spend time praying together as a group.
- Listen to the **Between the Lines Podcast** with Pastor Trey and Matt McGee to find out more about the story of Daniel. You can find it on the First Orlando App by clicking on “Experience” and then choose “Podcast” and find First Orlando’s Between the Lines.
- Today is **Sunday Funday**! We will have fun opportunities all over campus after each service especially in our KIDS and Student Ministries.
- Join us for our **One More Equipping Night** on November 12th at the John Young Campus. This event is for everyone in 6th Grade and older. Tickets are $10 and include dinner and training; https://firstorlando.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/4750/responses/new