

Standing up for right

“...the God whom we serve is able to save us.” Daniel 3:17

1. Be a 24/7 Christ follower – Stand up!

“They (Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego) pay no attention to you, Your Majesty. They refuse to serve your gods and do not worship the gold statue you have set up.” Dan 3:12

a. Begin at home

“The godly walk with integrity; blessed are their children who follow them.” Prov 20:7

“Don’t let your heart be deceived so that you turn away from the Lord and serve and worship other gods.” Deut 11:16

“So commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these words of mine. Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. ¹⁹Teach them to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. ²⁰Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates” Deut 11:18-20

b. Start in the way in which you mean to continue

“So Nebuchadnezzar took them back to the land of Babylonia and placed them in the treasure-house of his god.” Dan 1:2b

“Daniel was determined not to defile himself by eating the food and wine given to them by the king.” Dan 1:8

c. Make it our pattern of life

“But when Daniel learned that the law had been signed, he went home and knelt down as usual in his upstairs room, with its windows open toward Jerusalem. He prayed three times a day, just as he had always done, giving thanks to his God.” Dan 6:10

2. Believe that God is able

“Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego replied, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you. ¹⁷If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God whom we serve is able to save us. He will rescue us from your power, Your Majesty. ¹⁸But even if he doesn’t, we want to make it clear to you, Your Majesty, that we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up.” Dan 3:17

3. Be assured God’s presence will be with you

But suddenly, Nebuchadnezzar jumped up in amazement and exclaimed to his advisers, “Didn’t we tie up three men and throw them into the furnace?”

“Yes, Your Majesty, we certainly did,” they replied. ²⁵“Look!” Nebuchadnezzar shouted. “I see four men, unbound, walking around in the fire unharmed! And the fourth looks like a god!” Dan 3:24-25

“When you go through deep waters, I will be with you.

When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown.

When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up; the flames will not consume you.” Isa 43:2

“And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Matt 28:20b

4. Beware how deceptive our hearts are

“Then Nebuchadnezzar said, “Praise to the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego! He sent his angel to rescue his servants who trusted in him.” Dan 3:28

“As he looked out across the city, he said, ‘Look at this great city of Babylon! By my own mighty power, I have built this beautiful city as my royal residence to display my majestic splendour.’” Dan 4:30