

## **Bible Study: Fires of Testing**

**Purpose:** To help the group to prepare their answers ahead of time, so that when the world asks them to bend the knee to what is false, they can remain strong in what is true; to show them that if we're worth dying for, Jesus is worth living for.

**Icebreaker:** Bring a piece of metal or fine silver. Ask the group to describe it. Ask the group to explain how it was made. Tell them about a master metallurgy making a fine work of art. He continues to forge it in the fire, burning out the impurities. He is not satisfied until he can see his own reflection in his work.

### **DANIEL 3:1-7**

**Q:** What is King Nebuchadnezzar doing when he makes the golden statue?

**Q:** Doesn't this seem foolish? What kind of moron is he?

**Q:** Why didn't he just command the people to worship him?

**Q:** We've come a long way since then, does this still happen today?

### **DANIEL 3:8-12**

**Q:** Chaldeans are kissing up to the king. Are they right to conform?

**Q:** What are they attempting to do here? Why?

**Q:** What does religious freedom mean? How has it been twisted?

### **DANIEL 3:13-15**

**Q:** Why is the king angry with them?

**Q:** But he appointed them to this position before his god existed, didn't he?

**Q:** Does it make sense to worship something that is younger than you?

**Q:** Notice the significance of music. What was music originally intended for?

### **DANIEL 3:16-18**

**Q:** Aren't they being blasphemous?

**Q:** Isn't being rebellious a negative trait?

**Q:** Why are they so confident? What if God didn't save them?

### **DANIEL 3:19-23**

**Q:** What is the significance of the heat of the furnace?

**Q:** So, seven times hotter than normal, what does this mean?

**Q:** Was this the perfect will of God, or a mistake on their part?

**Q:** They had a connection to God, did the men who threw them in?

### **DANIEL 3:24-30**

**Q:** Why does the king question the number of people?

**Q:** Often, when God shows up, we can't believe our eyes. Have you experience this?

**Q:** Why were they not consumed by the fire?

**Q:** What is Nebuchadnezzar's attitude at the end of this whole episode?

**Q:** What can we expect when we stand up for God?