

## Sermon Discussion Questions September 27 - Daniel 3

### Their Story:

This is one of the most famous and beloved biblical events. What first crosses your mind when you hear the story of "The Fiery Furnace"?

What part of this chapter sticks out to you the most?

Talk about the choice Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego had to make.

Why didn't (couldn't) they just outwardly bow down to the statue but in their hearts still love the Lord?

Why was Nebuchadnezzar so angry?

Discuss their response in 3:16-18.

The "fourth man" is most likely a Christophany (an appearance of Christ in the Old Testament).

What were the (miraculous) results God produced in this?

How would you summarize the main message of Daniel 3?

### Our Story:

Here are two main threads in this passage that are extremely relevant and practical for us:

#### 1) The Call to Follow

Like Shad/Mesh/Abed - how do we continually face real-life choices of who we are going to worship and follow?

Vocation  
Finances  
Media/Art

Relationships  
Sexuality  
Conversations / Words

How might we make rationalizations and compromises like that in our lives?

This chapter gives us great insight into what it means to be a Jesus-follower. What are some of these insights?

Talk about how the Call to Follow Christ can easily be hijacked in two different ways:

- a) Easy-Believism - Just believe; behavior doesn't matter
- b) Legalism - Obey, or else.

How is Jesus' calling to follow different from those?

#### 2) The Promise to Followers

How can it be scary (and risky) to follow Christ?

What keeps us from going "all in" with following Jesus?

Talk about these two categories of following Jesus:

"I'll follow, if..."

"I'll follow, because..."

We all hold back parts of ourselves and our lives from Jesus, not willing to trust him with...what? What do you hold back?

How is it that our only and true hope is that Jesus himself held NOTHING BACK in obeying the father?

How is the motivation and empowerment rather than guilt and legalism?

As you see in 3:16-18 - what is God's promise?

How is his presence and our Living Hope better than the thing we are holding onto (earthly hope)?