The Fiery Furnace Song—Act-It-Out

Materials Needed

The Fiery Furnace Song Actions p. 3, device for showing *The Fiery Furnace* song at www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/video-the-fiery-furnace

optional: simple costumes, e.g. crown for Nebuchadnezzar, a white T-shirt for the angel, colored T-shirts for Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego; chairs for a throne for Nebuchadnezzar, to represent the image, and to form the outlines of a furnace

Prepare in Advance

Read through *The Fiery Furnace Song Actions* and think about how to divide the children into acting parts.

Optional: Set up a "throne" for king Nebuchadnezzar, an image, and a "furnace" (use chairs to make a circle in a corner of the room). Gather costumes.



Help children take the story of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego's courage to heart by learning *The Fiery Furnace* song by Lori Odhner, and then acting it out. Each verse of the song tells part of the story.

1. Introduce children to the song *The Fiery Furnace Song* by watching a video online at www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/video-the-fiery-furnace. Repeat the song, and encourage the children to join in and sing along. The words and music are included on page 5.
2. Once the children show a basic level of comfort with the song, prepare them to act it out. Assign roles. The characters are Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, Nebuchadnezzar, Babylonian princes; Babylonian crowd; and guards. For small groups, a single child can represent a group of people—such as Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.
3. Follow the acting directions provided in *The Fiery Furnace Song Actions* (p. 3).
4. Act the song out again if there is continued interest, switching roles.
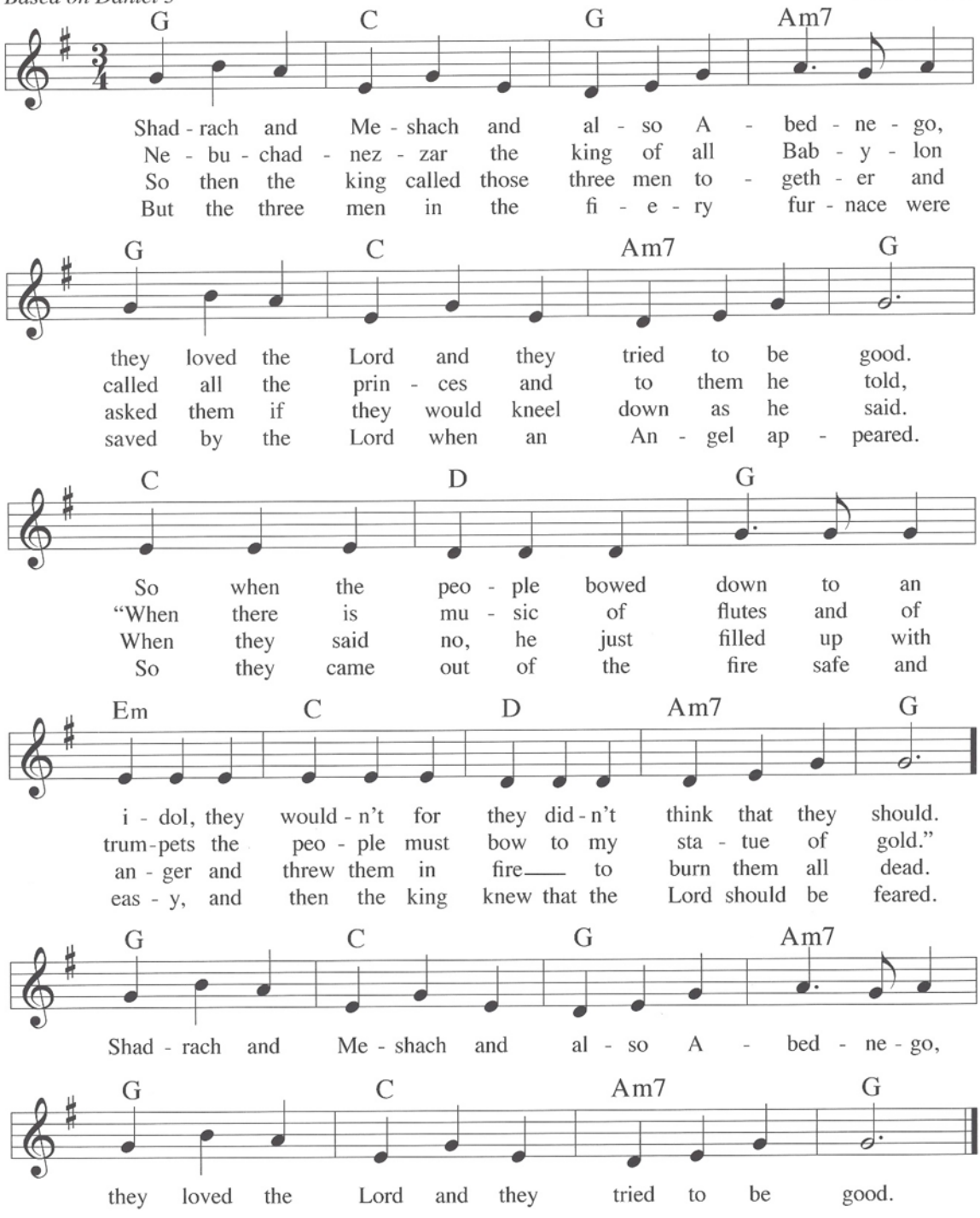
New Church Concept
Music

In former times many types of musical instruments were used when God was worshipped. Wind instruments express affections for good, and stringed instruments affections for truth; and the origin of this was the correspondence of every sound to the affections. Some types of musical instruments are used to express one kind of natural affections; other types, to express another kind. When a fitting melody is played they stir the affections. Skilled musicians make use of this. The reason for it lies in the nature of sound, and its accord with the affections. This has its origin in the spiritual world. It springs from the correspondence of things in the natural world with realities in the spiritual world. Musical instruments correspond to delights and pleasures belonging to spiritual and celestial affections. Some instruments correspond to celestial affections, others to spiritual ones. See *Arcana Coelestia* 8337.2

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The Fiery Furnace Song

Based on Daniel 3 — *Lori Odhner*



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The Fiery Furnace Song Actions

Choose children to act the parts of the characters. For small groups, a single child can represent a group of people—such as Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. Repeat the song with different actors if desired.
Optional: Using chairs, set up a "throne" for king Nebuchadnezzar, an "image" and a "furnace" area.

Character	Song	Action
Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego	Shadrach and Meshach and also Abednego, they loved the Lord and they tried to be good.	Fold hands and bow heads in prayer to the Lord.
Crowd	So when the people bowed down to an idol,	Bow down to (imaginary) idol.
Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego	They wouldn't for they didn't think that they should.	Stand and shake their heads "no".
All (Chorus)	Shadrach and Meshach and also Abednego, they loved the Lord and they tried to be good.	Fold hands and bow heads in prayer to the Lord.
Nebuchadnezzar, princes of Babylon	Nebuchadnezzar the king of all Babylon called all the princes and to them he told, "When there is music of flutes and of trumpets the people must bow to my statue of gold."	Nebuchadnezzar tells the princes the people must bow.
All (Chorus)	Shadrach and Meshach and also Abednego, they loved the Lord and they tried to be good.	Fold hands and bow heads in prayer to the Lord.
Nebuchadnezzar, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego	So then the king called those three men together and asked them if they would kneel down as he said.	Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego stand before king Nebuchadnezzar.
Nebuchadnezzar, guards, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego	When they said no, he just filled up with anger and threw them in fire to burn them all dead.	Nebuchadnezzar orders the guards to put the men in the furnace.
All (Chorus)	Shadrach and Meshach and also Abednego, they loved the Lord and they tried to be good.	Fold hands and bow heads in prayer to the Lord.
Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, Angel	But the three men in the fiery furnace were saved by the Lord when an Angel appeared.	All four walk around freely in the furnace.
Nebuchadnezzar, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego	So they came out of the fire safe and easy, and then the king knew that the Lord should be feared.	All come out of the furnace.
All (Chorus)	Shadrach and Meshach and also Abednego, they loved the Lord and they tried to be good.	Fold hands and bow heads in prayer to the Lord.

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