

Family Lesson - The Fiery Furnace (Daniel 3)

Level 1 – Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego

Introduction to the Project

- Once there were three good young men living in Israel named Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. They were captured by King Nebuchadnezzar and taken to his country.
- The king built an idol (statue) and said everyone must worship the idol or be thrown into a fiery furnace.
- Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego loved the Lord and worshiped Him. They would not worship the idol. They were not afraid of the fiery furnace. They trusted the Lord and thought He would save them.
- When the king saw that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego would not worship the idol, he commanded his men to throw them into a fiery furnace. The furnace was so hot that the king's men burnt up.
- In a few minutes you will see what happened to Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego.

Materials needed

scissors
paper clips or tape
red, yellow, and orange crayons or markers

[Note: Younger children will need help cutting out the pieces for this project. If you would like to have the appearance of the angel be a "surprise" when the project is finished, you may want to tape the angel to the back of the flames picture for the child, and then be careful not to show the back of the page to the child. The child will see the angel when the finished project is held up to a light.]

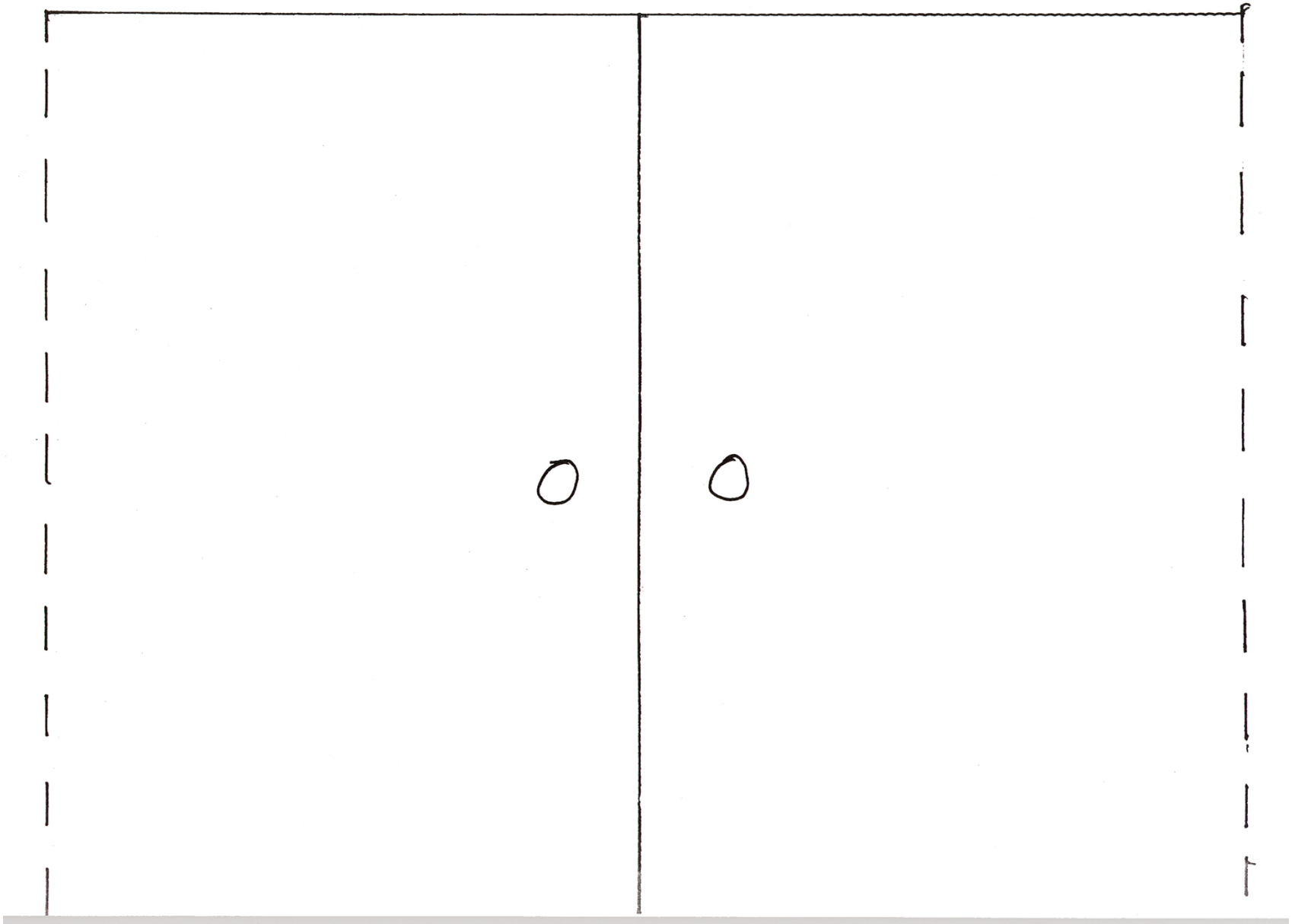
Procedure

1. Cut along the solid lines of the furnace door on page two.
2. Then fold the doors out and crease along the dotted line. Re-close the doors.
3. Color the flames in the picture of the three young men (page three).
4. Cut out the angel (page four), and glue or tape him to the back of the flames picture, so that he is seen only when the picture is held up to the light.
5. Now place the door page over the flames picture and paper clip or tape them together.

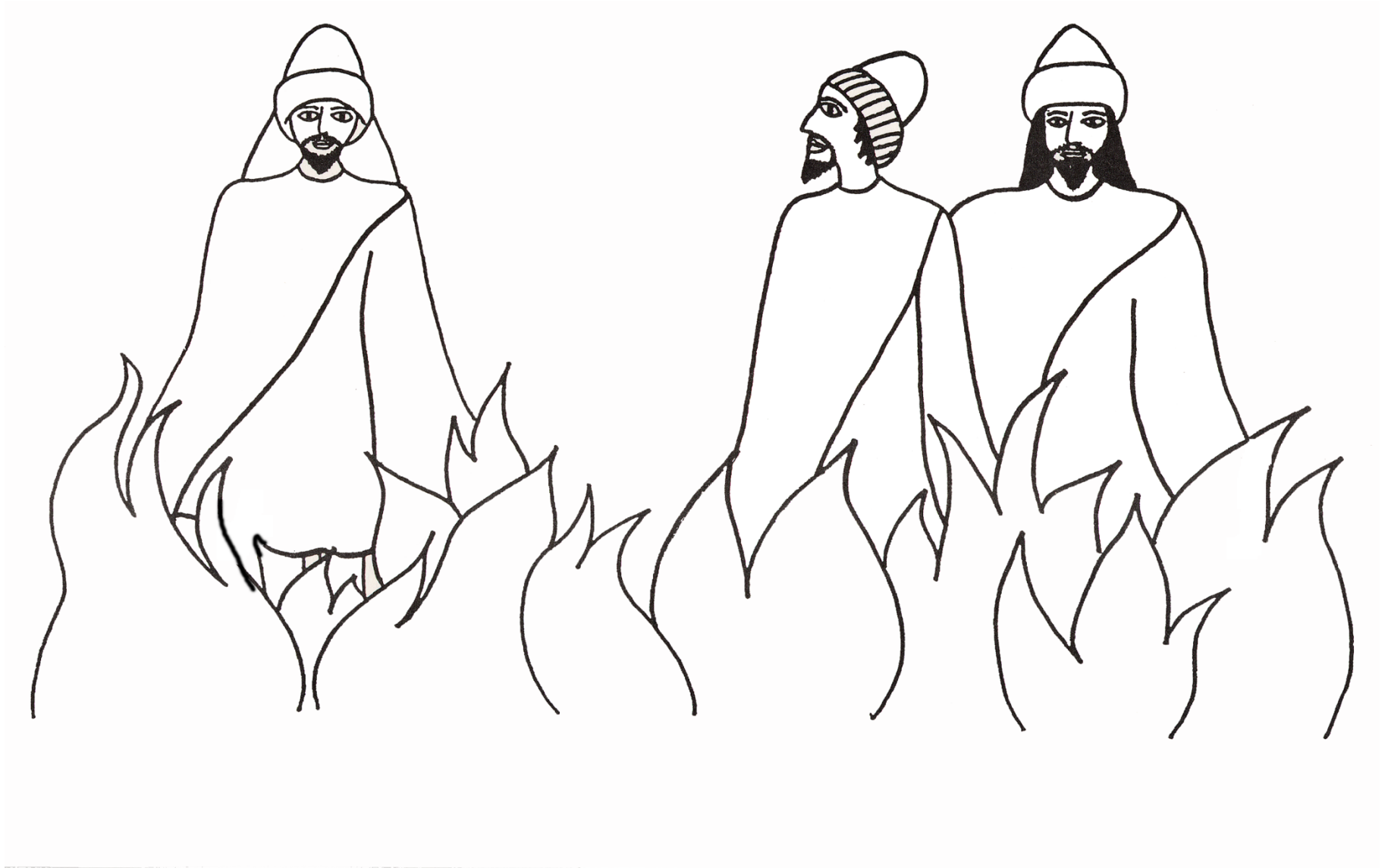
Tell the Child (Children)

Now you are ready to see what happened to Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. Open the doors of the furnace. The fire is hot, but it is not burning up the three young men. Why didn't the fire burn them up? If you hold the picture up to a light you will see why. You will see what the king saw when he looked into the furnace. He saw not three but four men in the furnace. The fourth man was an angel sent from the Lord. The Lord saved Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego from the fire. The king saw how powerful the Lord is and took the young men out of the furnace and made them rulers in Babylon. The Lord protects, or takes care of, everyone who tries to be good.

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