HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY

FIRE & FAITHFULNESS TEACHING GUIDE

WEEK 1

MAIN SCRIPTURES:
Daniel 1

MAIN POINT:
As believers, we can still live and thrive in a world that hates God by trusting God is in control.

JESUS CONNECTION:
Daniel is awesome, but he isn't the hero of the story: God is. God is the hero of our stories too.

LIVE AND VIDEO TEACHING HYBRID FORMAT

THE WHAT

WHAT are we talking about and WHY does it matter to me? (2-4 min)

ME

- What are some issues that can cause division between Christians and common culture today? (Give students a few minutes to answer or prep a short story to share on this)

WE

- As believers, our loyalty, sacrifice, and obedience to God can be seen as strange because the standards of the world are often different from the standard God has for his people. This tension can leave many people wrestling with pressure to compromise their beliefs to avoid uncomfortable and difficult circumstances.

TRANSITION

- So how do we stand firm in our faith when pressure from our culture feels too heavy? In this series, we're going to hear from author and Duck Dynasty star Sadie Robertson Huff as she helps us answer the question, "How do we live well in a world that hates God?"

SO WHAT

So WHAT does this mean for my faith and life with God? (6-8 min)

GOD

- Before viewing the session, here are a few important things to look for in Sadie's teaching. As you watch, pay attention to how she answers the following questions.
  - What caused Daniel's circumstance?
  - How did Daniel react to the king's new rules?
  - What did God do for Daniel and his three friends, and how did it benefit them?
- **Watch Session 1: God's in Control (7 minutes).**

NOTES

SO WHAT CONTINUED

JESUS CONNECTION

- Daniel is awesome, but Daniel isn't the hero of his story. God is the hero. God rescues and saves Daniel and his friends.
- Don't miss this: the same is true for us. We aren't the heroes of our story. God is the hero of our story and of our lives.
- God sent His son Jesus to rescue and save us from sin and death. We can only live faithful lives to God after we first put our faith in Jesus, in His loving grace.
- Once we take that first step, then we are called to a life of faithfulness. A life where we walk trusting God is faithful to us, even in the fire.

TRANSITION

- So what does this all mean for us in our lives now?

NOW WHAT

NOW that I know, HOW can I live this out? (2-4 min)

YOU

- God is always in control, even when it doesn't look like it.
- Like Daniel, we may find ourselves in situations that are out of our control, feeling the pressure to conform to the world's standards. But Daniel and his friends showed us that it is possible to trust that God is still on our side when he seems absent and our circumstances are tiresome.

WE

- Trusting God's faithfulness despite our feelings is the first step on the journey to our faithful obedience.

PRAY

- Close your time together in prayer.
- Pray that God would help you release whatever you might be trying to control in your life. Thank Him for being in control and ask Him to help you surrender.

NOTES