



**HSM PRESENTS:
FIRE + FAITHFULNESS
SERIES OVERVIEW
SUNDAY GROUPS' VERSION**



SERIES AT A GLANCE

TEACHING THEME

Living for Jesus

SERIES OVERVIEW

We live in a world that doesn't care what God wants. Sure, they may not say it that way, but the messages that parade across social media declare that God's way just isn't worth it. But as Christians, we're committed to following Jesus in every aspect of our lives. Is it possible to live—or maybe even thrive—as a believer in our world today? Let's discover the lost art of faithfulness in the face of a world that wants nothing to do with God. Trek through the story of four young Israelites who, when ripped from their homes, faced a choice: remain faithful followers in a foreign land, or bow before an empire that hated God. **Learn through studying Daniel and his friends how God is faithful and trustworthy, even in the fire.**

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.

HIGH SCHOOL HACK

What others think about us is important to everyone, but it is especially highlighted in the teen years. Following God faithfully is not always a popular choice and while your students will likely not be threatened to be thrown in the fire like Daniel, their reputation may be threatened. Pray and ask God to lead you to inspire and encourage your students to see how following God faithfully is more than worth it, even in the fire. What stories from your life can you share where God faithfully rewarded you for taking a stand and risked something of this world to faithfully follow Him?

WEEK BY WEEK

**WEEK 1: CONTROL + INFLUENCE*
WEEK OF APRIL 11**

- MAIN POINTS:
 - (1) As believers, we can still live and thrive in a world that hates God by trusting God is in control.
 - (2) God can use our influence to showcase his power.
- MAIN SCRIPTURE: Daniel 1 & 2
- QUOTES OF THE WEEK:
 - (1) "We can trust everyday wisdom and guidance that we find in the Word of God. This Word is faithful because God is faithful."
 - (2) "We must begin to treat our areas of influence as opportunities to advance God's reputation to the world, not our own reputation. We are not the heroes of the story."

**WEEK 2: FAITHFUL IN THE FIRE & LIFE*
WEEK OF APRIL 18**

- MAIN POINTS:
 - (1) Our obedience is not just about us—when we obey, others can see God's power displayed.
 - (2) Our faithful obedience to God can have an impact on our lives and everyone around us.
- MAIN SCRIPTURE: Daniel 3 & 6
- QUOTES OF THE WEEK:
 - (1) "We must be willing to put everything on the line—our reputation, our influence, or even our life in order to remain faithfully obedient to God."
 - (2) "Courage is not always public or dramatic. Oftentimes it's not even popular. Sometimes it just means obeying God in the little things and through difficult situations."

*Since we are combining two teaching weeks into one, some content has been shortened but we also recommend cutting 5-10 minutes of intro time to allow for a little extra teaching and discussion time.