

**Lesson Plan FIRE PROOF: DANIEL 3**  
**Pastor Miles McPherson**  
**September 25, 2016**

This week, Pastor Miles: Described how our response to pain should glorify & honor God and how we can prepare our self before pain comes.

**1. Opening Discussion:**

1. Pastor Miles says that we need friends that stick closer than brothers and sisters. Are there people in our life who love God that we can go to for help when we encounter trials? Who are some of them?

2. Proverbs 18:24 says "One who has unreliable friends soon comes to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother." Do our friends add to or even care about our trials or do they come alongside and help us out of or share in them?

3. How can these friends sharpen each other as iron sharpens iron?

**2. Going Deeper:**

1. In Daniel, Hananiah's, Mishael's and Azariah's first test of their obedience they negotiated a deal with their guards that required no compromise in their disciplines to God. Give some examples where we have failed and succeeded in compromising our obedience to God.

2. When Daniel was faced with the new law commanding disobedience to God he choose to remain obedient in Daniel 6:10. What situations do we often face where we may or will encounter persecution for our obedience to God?

3. Daniel 2:16-18 shows that when Daniel learned of their impending doom the first things he did were to asked for time, explained the matter to his friends then they all prayed together to God for mercy. What typically are the first things we do in the face of major trials?

4. List your spiritual disciplines, do they include a time and place that we go to pray, worship, and journal?

### **3. Group Activity:**

1. Going around your table take turns answering one of the following questions below until everyone has had a chance to respond:

a. When have you ever faced the "fire" of persecution for obedience to God in your life?

b. Name some examples of how God's miraculous faithfulness delivered you from a trial, temptation or persecution.

c. List some examples of promotions in your life, and see if you can identify God's direction, intervention, or provision in those events.

2. Have one person in the group lead the others in prayer over any current trials, or persecutions that are present in their life or the lives of someone they know.

3. Identify answered prayers from last weeks group petitions whether in the sustaining of the individual/s, complete deliverance, answered in part, in whole, or those answered in a manner not even addressed by the individual requests.

### **4. Take it Home:**

1. The "fourth man" was seen walking around in the fire only after Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were thrown in. Can this teach us anything about our own trials & persecution?

2. Pastor Miles said "death is everyone's last trial". How can we prepare to withstand the persecution from obedience to God from our next trial until this last trial?

3. What are some small of the acts of disobedience that quickly can grow to full blown defiance of God?

4. Do people who know you know that you are a Christian, or that you go to church, or that you serve the Most High God?