STEP 1

Focus:

Our God is able to save us.

Lesson 10
Bible Basis:

Daniel 3

Lesson 10 **Memory Verse:**

"The LORD your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with singing."

—Zephaniah 3:17

Students will discuss big and small challenges as they explore their response to a God who is able to save.

Materials:

None

Welcome the students into your classroom as you introduce the lesson topic. Superheroes always seem to capture everyone's imagination. Whether in films or other venues, the idea of someone good and powerful being able to rescue those in need is something that really appeals to people.

> Do any of you have a favorite superhero from fiction? Who is it, and why are they your favorite? (Allow a few students to share, but don't spend a lot of time on this.)

Watching superheroes rescue people in fiction is exciting, but it reminds us of rescues that happen in real life as well. In the last year, emergency response workers have helped countless people during the pandemic. They've risked their own health and wellbeing to care for other people. That's heroic!

Of course, not every instance of helping other people in the world is quite as exciting or high stakes as helping people in a pandemic. Rescue can come in many different shapes and sizes.

- > Have you ever been in a difficult position where you needed help? What did your rescue look like? (Answers can include big challenges or small ones. Help your students to see that someone helping them study for a big test, or stepping in to help them not feel embarrassed in a situation is a form of rescue.)
- > When are times you have been able to rescue someone else who needed your help? What happened? (Answers will vary; be prepared to share your own experience.)

The men we are going to talk about today were really in need of a dramatic rescue. Let's find out why and see what happened.

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)





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Lesson 10

Memory Verse:

Materials:

- Index cards or cardstock cut into bookmark-sized pieces (1 per student)
- Pens/pencils (1 per student)
- Optional: Markers or colored pencils

As students clean up from Step 3, move back toward the lesson focus. The way that God rescued the three men in our lesson today was nothing short of spectacular!

- > What do you think Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego expected would happen? (Possible answers: They expected God to save them; they trusted God to help them.)
- > These men said that even if God didn't save them, they still wouldn't bow down to worship the statue. Why do you think that was? (Possible answer: They believed following God was better than disobeying, no matter what happened.)
- > How could Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego be confident enough to defy the king? (Encourage discussion; steer conversation toward how our beliefs affect our choices.)

As exciting and awe-inspiring as it must have been to see God protecting Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the fiery furnace, God's ability to rescue each and every one of us is JUST as impressive. God is ready and willing to help us whenever we face a difficult situation.

> Does it make a difference to know that God is always able to rescue us? What does that change for you? (Some possible answers: It makes me more ready to follow God; it makes me less afraid of what other people might do.)

Let's make memory verse bookmarks to remind us that God is ready and willing to rescue us at any time. Hand out supplies (or invite them to have supplies ready at home) and have your students write out their memory verse and decorate the bookmark any way they choose. Use this bookmark in your Bible, your schoolbooks, or anywhere else where you will see it often. Throughout this week, let it remind you that God is there for you and let that belief affect the choices you make.

Close in prayer.

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