



If we have not resolved to **stand up** for God, we will **bow down** with the world.

Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. Do everything in love. 1 Corinthians 16:13-14

King Nebuchadnezzar made an image of gold, sixty cubits high and six cubits wide, and set it up on the plain of Dura in the province of Babylon. He then summoned the satraps, prefects, governors, advisers, treasurers, judges, magistrates and all the other provincial officials to come to the dedication of the image he had set up. So the satraps, prefects, governors, advisers, treasurers, judges, magistrates and all the other provincial officials assembled for the dedication of the image that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up, and they stood before it. Then the herald loudly proclaimed, "Nations and peoples of every language, this is what you are commanded to do: As soon as you hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipe and all kinds of music, you must fall down and worship the image of gold that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up. Whoever does not fall down and worship will immediately be thrown into a blazing furnace." Therefore, as soon as they heard the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp and all kinds of music, all the nations and peoples of every language fell down and worshiped the image of gold that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up. Daniel 3:1-7

...there are some Jews—Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego—whom you have put in charge of the province of Babylon. They pay no attention to you, Your Majesty. They refuse to serve your gods and do not worship the gold statue you have set up." Daniel 3:12

● Your stand will always get others **talking**.

Everyone will hate you on account of my name. But whoever stands firm until the end will be saved. Matthew 10:22 (CEB)

Standing Firm means:

● I have to decide now who I will **stand with**.

...They pay no attention to you, Your Majesty. They refuse to serve your gods and do not worship the gold statue you have set up." Daniel 3:12

● I refuse to be **fearful**.

There is no fear of losing what we
have already **given up**.

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego replied, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not worried about what will happen to us." Daniel 3:16

If we are thrown into the flaming furnace, our God is able to deliver us... But if he doesn't, we will not bow... Daniel 3:17-18

My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Galatians 2:20 (NLT)

For to me, living means living for Christ, and dying is even better. Philippians 1:21

Standing Firm also means:

● I've decided whom I will and will not **worship**.

We all worship **something**.

Worship as a definition: Worship is our response to what we value most.

Do not worship any other gods besides me... You must never worship or bow down to them, for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God who will not share your affection with any other god! Exodus 20:3,5

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter. If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to save us from it, and he will rescue us from your hand, O king. But even if he does not, we want you to know, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up." Daniel 3:17-18

People knew God perfectly well, but when they didn't treat him like God, refusing to worship him, they trivialized themselves into silliness and confusion so that there was neither sense nor direction left in their lives. They pretended to know it all, but were illiterate regarding life. They traded the glory of God who holds the whole world in his hands for cheap figurines you can buy at any roadside stand. Romans 1:21-23 (MSG)

And because the king, in his anger, had demanded such a hot fire in the furnace, the flames killed the soldiers as they threw the three men in. So Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, securely tied, fell into the roaring flames. But suddenly, Nebuchadnezzar jumped up in amazement and exclaimed to his advisers, "Didn't we tie up three men and throw them into the furnace?" "Yes, Your Majesty, we certainly did," they replied. "Look!" Nebuchadnezzar shouted. "I see four men, unbound, walking around in the fire unharmed! And the fourth looks like a son of the gods!" Daniel 3:22-25

● When you stand up for God, He stands in the fire with you.



**TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE
IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.**

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?
- What is something from the story we covered on Sunday that stands out to you?
- What are some ways people compromise and bow down to the culture? What gives you the strength to Stand up for God? Have you ever had to stand up for God when your friends wanted you to be a part of the culture?
- Have you ever experienced people talking about you because you have stood up for God?
- In your own words, what does it mean to "Stand Firm"?
- Why is it important to decide now who you will stand with?
- What are some of the fears people face that cause them not stand up for God, and blend in with the culture? What does the statement mean to you: "There is no fear of losing what we have already given up"?
- Why is it important to decide who gets the worship of our lives? Does God get the worship He deserves from us? How can we correct that? What are some things we need to stop worshipping?

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God”

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