

- 7) What are some of the lies the world tries to tell us about truth?
- 8) Why is it so important to have confidence in our friendship with Jesus, and how does this impact our true identity?
- 9) Have you ever struggled in your confidence about your friendship with Jesus? If so, how did you overcome it?
- 10) How can having our mind anchored on our future hope help us have greater confidence?
- 11) What are some of the lies the enemy want us to believe about our eternity in heaven?
- 12) How can thinking and praying about heaven help our confidence?
- 13) How are these three thoughts connected to one another: confidence in truth, confidence in friendship, and confidence in our future hope?

CHAIR TIME TOOLS

This week take some time and read Daniel Chapters 1-3. Ask God to show you the truth about the following three areas.

- 1) What does my confidence in truth look like?
- 2) Am I confident in my friendship with Jesus?
- 3) What do I believe about my future hope, and how is my confidence?

Faith in the Fire

Pastor Justin Orr | October 1, 2023

Text: Daniel 3:7 - 25 NLT

Key Verses: *“Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego replied, ‘O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you. If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God whom we serve is able to save us. He will rescue us from your power, Your Majesty. But even if he doesn’t, we want to make it clear to you, Your Majesty, that we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up.’”*

Daniel 3:16 – 18 NLT

Thread: Faith in the fire requires confidence.

I have a couple observations about the text that are worth pointing out.

- God did not rescue them from the fire but in the fire.
- Nebuchadnezzar was crazy.
- These men offered gentle noncompliance with evil.
- “Our God is able. But even if he doesn’t rescue us, we won’t worship.” This is confident faith!

I’d like to give you three areas that are necessary to have faith in the fire.

- 1) We need to have confidence in truth.

“Jesus told him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’” **John 14:6 NIV**

“Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, ‘If you continue in my word, you really are my disciples. You will know the truth and the truth will set you free.’” **John 8:31 – 32 CSB**

- 2) We need to have confidence in our friendship with Jesus.

“Then Jesus said, ‘Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light.’” **Matthew 11:28 – 30 NLT**

3) Confidence in eternity.

“See what great love the Father has given us that we should be called God’s children—and we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it didn’t know him. Dear friends, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet been revealed. We know that when he appears, we will be like him because we will see him as he is. And everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself just as he is pure.”

1 John 3:1-3 CSB

“So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.” **2 Corinthians 4:16–18 ESV**

Challenge:

- To have confident faith in the fire.
- We need to know the truth.
- To have the issue of your identity settled, to stop doubting that you are His and to lean into who God says you are.
- Set your heart on heaven.
- Believe for bold faith now but trust His will regardless of the outcome.

For practical, cross-cultural Bible studies related to sermon topics, visit Dougbrittonbooks.com/resources.

Life Group Homework

Faith in the Fire

Fall 2023 | Week 3

Message Date 10/1/2023

MY STORY

- 1) If you could instantaneously become fluent in any language, what would it be?
- 2) Would you rather be a superhero or the world’s best chef, why?

QUICK REVIEW

- 3) What caught your attention from Sunday’s message?

DIGGING DEEPER / TAKING IT HOME

Read Daniel 3:1-30 NLT

- 4) What are some observations from this story?

I don’t know about you, but I want this kind of faith in my life. I want to trust that God can do miracles, but if He doesn’t, I will still trust Him. It’s His will not mine. God is really smart and knows what I don’t and can see what I can’t. This week in the message I shared some thoughts that can help build this type of confident faith. They are as follows:

- Confidence in truth
- Confidence in friendship with Jesus
- Confidence in our future hope

- 5) Why is confidence in truth so important?

John 14:6 NLT

⁶Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

John 8:31-32(NLT

³¹ Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you continue in my word, you really are my disciples. ³² You will know the truth and the truth will set you free.”

- 6) What do these two verses teach us about truth?