



Living Lent | March 29

Faithfulness of Young People

Nebuchadnezzar said to them, "Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods and you do not worship the golden statue that I have set up? Now if you are ready when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble to fall down and worship the statue that I have made, well and good. But if you do not worship, you shall immediately be thrown into a furnace of blazing fire, and who is the god that will deliver you out of my hands?"

...

Nebuchadnezzar said, "Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who has sent his angel and delivered his servants who trusted in him. They disobeyed the king's command and yielded up their bodies rather than serve and worship any god except their own God.

Daniel 3:14-15; 26-28 (NRSV)

Encouragement for the Lenten Journey:

I never cease to be amazed at the commitment of young people in the Bible who truly display dedication that is frankly inspirational. The Old Testament introduces us to David, a young shepherd boy ("A man after God's own heart") and the New Testament highlights Timothy, who was taught by his Mother and Grandmother in the ways of the Lord ("Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity.")

Our lectionary story of the Hebrew young people who stood firm and committed to the teachings of their people in the face of king Nebuchadnezzar is nothing short of another example of the clear fact that the only thing that matters to God is a

willingness of heart and a life ready to serve Him. Adversity comes to all people of various classes. The issue is not who has the adversity but how that person responds to the adversity, and the example of the four Hebrew youths in the opening chapters of Daniel is stunning when one considers the fact that these young people had no right or designation that would warrant noncompliance with any of the edicts elected by the kings. Yet, in the face of the adversity of whether to defile their bodies by partaking of any food other than kosher, their first act of facing adversity head-on resulted in the young Hebrews being designated as men of wisdom and high learning. (Daniel 1:17 ASV) Following this act of bravery and confidence, the three youth then refuse to bow down to the king when the music begins to play. No musical chairs for these kids! They stood and stood tall.

They refused to bow their knee to the world and the king. They had learned that every time we stand up, we are standing up with God and God proves His faithfulness.

As we travel through this Lenten Season, we have been reminded many times of the faithfulness of God, and it is encouraging to also remember the faithfulness of these young children. The Children of Morningstar are given the opportunity to come to a place of safety where they can be loved and cherished for the individual children of God that they are and through the encouragement of the Staff and friends made at Morningstar, including you, they can remain hopeful that in the wildernesses of life, they have friends who will stand with them in times of trouble and trials. Most of all, they can know that the faithfulness of God is greater than any challenge that they will face in life.

In the end, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, along with Daniel, remained hopeful, strong, and resilient in their faithfulness to God and together they persevered and were able to convince even king Nebuchadnezzar to issue a decree that recognized the very Kingship of their God. ***May we encourage each other to live in a way that will evidence hopefulness and commitment to the faithfulness of God as we walk toward the completion of this Lenten Season.***

Contributor and Contributing Body of Christ

Becky Dasher Livingston has dedicated her career to working in the nonprofit, faith-based sector, believing that servanthood is a true calling from God Himself. A member of the St. Simons Presbyterian Church, Becky serves as a member of the Foundation Council for Morningstar and seizes every opportunity possible to visit with the Children—a blessing indeed!

*It takes a lot of everything to **create home and healing** for the foster children, our neighbors, served at Morningstar Children's Home.*

We invite you to join others in giving \$1 per day during Lent to help support the needs of the children.

Donate Now

Day of Service/Stations of the Cross

Sign Up For Our Daily Devotionals



Discover Morningstar Children & Family Services

Learn More

a sanctuary where **transformative** teaching and **healing** affirms
our children through **real relationships**

Primary Mailing Address
P.O. Box 370
Brunswick, GA 31521

Brunswick Counseling Center
220 Santo Domingo Drive
Brunswick, GA 31525

Perry Counseling Center
402 Courtney Hodges Blvd, Ste 201
Perry, GA 31069

Morningstar Residential Campus
1 Youth Estate Drive
Brunswick, GA 31525

morningstarcfs.org | [@morningstarcfs](https://www.facebook.com/morningstarcfs)  



Morning Star CFS | 1 Youth Estate Drive, Brunswick, GA 31525

[Unsubscribe Icrawford@morningstarcfs.org](mailto:Icrawford@morningstarcfs.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by livinglent@morningstarcfs.org in collaboration
with



Try email marketing for free today!